

# BIG SPRING HERALD

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"Reflecting a Proud Community"

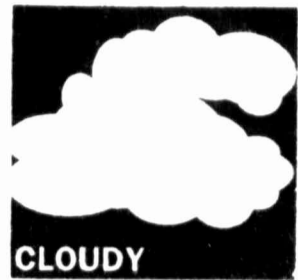
50 CENTS DAILY/\$1.25 SUNDAY

THURSDAY

March 29, 2001

## WEATHER

Tonight:



CLOUDY

TONIGHT 43°-46° FRIDAY 60°-64°

## 'Kaleidoscope' fashion show slated Saturday

"Kaleidoscope," a children's fashion show and brunch to benefit St. Mary's Episcopal School, will be held Saturday at the Dora Roberts Community Center.

The show is set from 10 a.m. until noon and will feature children of all ages showing off play and dress attire from area stores. Reservations are necessary because brunch will be served and seating is limited. Admission is strictly by donation; there is no fee.

Those who plan to attend should call the school office at 263-0203 as quickly as possible.

## WHAT'S UP...

### TODAY

□ Masonic Lodge No. 598 meets at 7:30 p.m. at 219 Main.

### FRIDAY

□ The Greater Big Spring Rotary Club meets at noon in the Howard College Cactus Room.

□ AMBUCS meets at noon at La Posada.

□ Spring City Senior Citizens country/western dance, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. All seniors invited.

### SATURDAY

□ The Heritage Museum, 510 Scurry, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

□ The Potton House, 200 Gregg, a restored historic home, is open from 1 to 5 p.m. A one-time admission fee of \$2 for adults and \$1 for children and senior citizens are encouraged.

□ Chili supper and dance at the VFW Post on Driver Road to benefit the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial.

Chili supper from 4:30-7:30 p.m., tickets \$5 adults and \$3 for children. Dance, 8 p.m. to midnight. Tickets \$7 per person.

□ Dance, 8:30 p.m., Eagles Lodge, 704 West Third. Members and guests welcome.

## INSIDE TODAY...

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## United Way board to exchange ideas

By BILL MCCLELLAN  
News Editor

United Way for Big Spring and Howard County board will meet today to exchange ideas for the future in a "brainstorm-



MICHAELIS

ing" session at Big Spring Country Club.

"We have really bright people on the board, very community-minded people, and we're just going to get together and share some ideas for a couple of hours," said Cindy Michaelis, United Way executive director.

The group will meet from 5:30 until 7:30 p.m. for an informal session. Glenn Cochran, executive director

of the Lubbock United Way, will address the group.

"Lubbock had a tremendous jump in fund-raising a few years ago and Glenn will be giving us some ideas," Michaelis said. "I'm looking forward to it. This is an exciting board to work with."

During tonight's meeting, the board will discuss the annual campaign kickoff

See UNITED WAY, Page 2A

## 2001: The Crossroads' Odyssey

A week-long series that takes an in-depth look at our community's past, present and future.

Sunday — Education

Monday — Living

Tuesday — Agricultural, Industry and Oil

Wednesday — Government

Today — Hospitals and Health

Friday — Religion

## Ag awards

### Barr, Feagins receive top awards today at appreciation luncheon

HERALD Staff Report

A longtime farmer and a couple who have operated farm implement businesses for more than 40 years were honored today at the annual Ag Appreciation Luncheon, held at Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

More than 400 people were on hand as Maxwell Barr was named Ag Producer of the Year and Feagins Implement, owned by Gibson and Eveleta Feagins, was named the Ag Business of the Year.

Barr owns 1,800 acres of farm and ranch land in Howard County and presently farms 3,000 acres. He also runs cattle on the family ranch.

He is vice chairman of the Farm Service Agency committee and a Big Spring Co-op Gin board member. Barr was born on Aug. 5, 1953, in Big Spring and graduated from Coahoma High School in 1971. He graduated from Texas Tech University in 1975 with a degree in ag economics.

During his school years, he was a member of the 4-H Club, and had the grand champion steer of the San Antonio Livestock Show in 1967.

He married Kaye Vonn Drew of Carrollton. She is now a teacher at Coahoma Junior High School. They have two sons and one



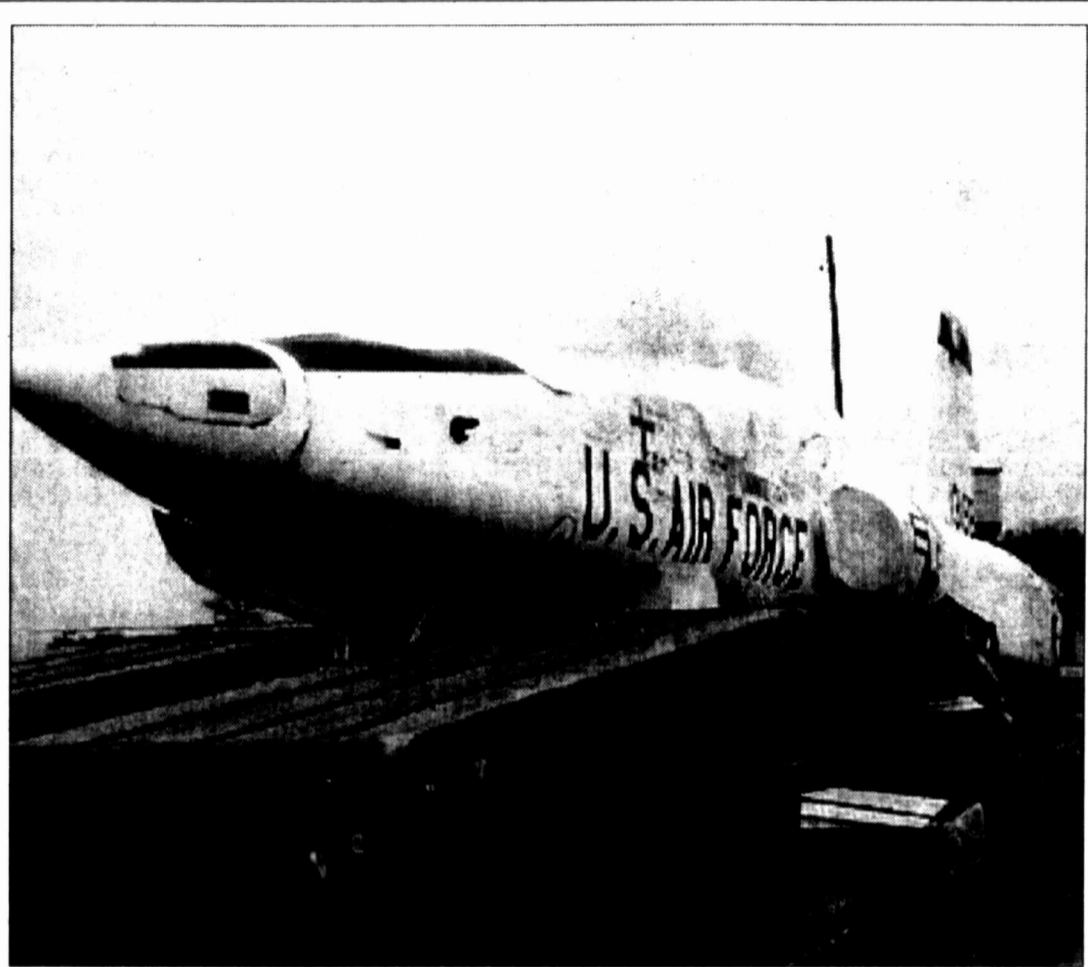
MAXWELL BARR



GIBSON & EVELETA FEAGINS

daughter. Aaron will graduate from Texas A&M in May with a degree in mechanical engineering. Johnathan will

See LUNCHEON, Page 2A



A T-38 trainer aircraft from Davis Monthan Air Force Base in Tucson, Ariz., rolled into McMahon-Wrinkle Airpark today, destined for the Hangar 25 Air Museum. A group of city and Hangar 25 committee volunteers left Sunday for the air base where they dismantled the plane before escorting it to Big Spring.

HERALD photo/Andrea Medlin

## 'Denim' deadline extended

HERALD Staff Report

The deadline for responding to Big Spring State Hospital's Volunteer Services Council's "15th Annual Denim and Diamonds Gala" has been extended to



RUSSWORM

Tuesday.

The hospital's major fund-raising event is scheduled for May 4 at the Big Spring Country Club and is sponsored by the Dora Roberts Foundation.

"The invitations were sent out during spring break, and we felt as if that wasn't sufficient time for people to respond," said Bill Russworm, Big Spring State Hospital director of community relations. "If they reply

by April 3, that will give us sufficient time to put their name in the program."

This is the first time the Denim and Diamonds Gala has been held at the country club, and the first year the reception and dance will be held under the same roof.

"We feel having it in one location will be better suited for our guests," Russworm said. "They'll be

See DENIM, Page 2A

## Howard College to host district UIL academic meet

By LYNDEL MOODY  
Staff Writer

More than 40 Big Spring High School students will be attending the District 4-4A University Interscholastic League (UIL) academic meet



BURCHETT

Friday at Howard College.

Howard College officials expect almost 400 area students to attend the event representing Andrews, Big Spring, Estacado, Frenship, San Angelo Lake View, Levelland, Plainview and Snyder high schools.

"We are looking forward to hosting the UIL academic meet again this year," said Dr. Amy Burchett, administrative dean of student ser-

vices at Howard College and UIL coordinator.

Students compete in traditional academic contests including accounting, calculator, computer applications, number sense, computer science, current events, informative speaking and persuasive speaking.

Journalism contests are divided into headline writing, feature writing, editori-

al writing and news writing. Other contests are Lincoln-Douglas debate, literary criticism, mathematics, poetry, prose, ready writing, science and spelling.

BSHS students participating in Friday's competition include Amanda Meek, Olga Sufuentes, Ryan Vassar, Joey Gutierrez, Nathan Smith, Michael Hadley and Melissa Kreher.

Also Melissa Flenniken,

Jacob Garcia, Luis Diaz, Toryn Haynes, Gwan Ausbie, Jason Baker, Brent Moore, Brittany Stone, Ricky Yanez, Chris Wington and Mark Warington are in the competition.

Also representing BSBS are Tim Worley, Aaron Schooler, Chelsea Helsey, Janae Giles, Jesus Valdez,

See UIL, Page 2A

## Chili supper and dance to highlight fund-raiser for Vietnam Memorial

By JOHN A. MOSELEY  
Managing Editor

A chili supper and dance to raise funds for maintenance and upkeep of the Big Spring Vietnam Memorial will be held Saturday at the VFW Post on Driver Road.



GROVES

The fund-raiser is of paramount importance to members of the Vietnam Memorial Committee, who stress they need help in maintaining the memorial that draws visitors from all over the nation each year.

"We're constantly needing funds just to keep the memorial kept up," said Jerry Groves, publicity chairman for the Vietnam Memorial Committee. "A lot of the members of the committee put a bunch of their own money into maintaining the memorial, but there's no way we can do this by ourselves. We need help from the community. Luckily, the community has always responded."

"It costs us a minimum of \$3,000 per year just to pay our utility bills," Groves added. "And that doesn't include materials and equipment needed to keep the grounds and do essen-

See VMQ, Page 2A



City of Big Spring crew workers were out Wednesday in force. From left, Mike Rivera, Randy Roach, Cody Rich and Johnny Gonzales replace a customer's service line at Eighth and Lancaster.

HERALD photo/Carl Graham

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**Be sure you know what you're taking**

One of my many responsibilities as a nurse was to evaluate the sometimes many medications a patient in my care was taking when they moved in and throughout their stay.



ANDREIA MEDLIN

I once discovered that a new patient was taking both Tylenol PM and Benadryl (generic name diphenhydramine).

I soon learned that the family member was not aware that the ingredient in Tylenol PM, promoted as a "sleep aid" was actually Benadryl (generic name diphenhydramine) resulting in the patient getting a double dose of Benadryl plus a dose of regular strength Tylenol every night.

Recently I've noticed that a lot of TV advertising for "new" prescription drugs on the market for PMS and smoking cessation are old drugs with new names such as Serafem, which is Prozac (generic name fluoxetine) and Zyban, which is Wellbutrin (generic name bupropion).

In my opinion the Tylenol ads are even more misleading. Some examples I've noticed are Tylenol Sinus, Tylenol Cold and Flu, and Tylenol PMS. The label reveals that although they have different names, they may contain the same ingredients in close to the same amounts.

In a recent study by the Food and Drug Administration, there is

See MEDLIN, Page 5A

**Couple in fatal dog attack get million-dollar bail**

RED BLUFF, Calif. (AP) — The high-speed road trip of a couple charged in the dog-mauling death of their neighbor prompted authorities to hold them on bail of a million dollars and up.

Marjorie Knoller and Robert Noel, wearing jail jumpsuits and shackled at the ankles and wrists, appeared briefly in court Wednesday in this small town in far northern California.

The pair, both attorneys, appeared without lawyers at the hearing.

Bail was set at \$2 million for Knoller, 45, and \$1 mil-

lion for Noel, 59. They were later returned to San Francisco and faced arraignment Thursday.

Knoller was with the two Presa Canario-mastiffs on Jan. 26 when they mauled the couple's next-door neighbor, lacrosse coach Dianne Whipple, in the hallway of their San Francisco apartment building.

Prosecutor James Hammer said bail was set high partly because the couple had left speedily after their grand jury appearance Tuesday and were arrested about 170 miles from the city, in Corning. Along the

way, Noel and Knoller had been stopped by California Highway Patrol officers, allegedly going at more than 85 mph.

"It's consistent with flight — one could infer that," Hammer said.

The grand jury issued an indictment after hearing from the couple Tuesday. Both are charged with involuntary manslaughter and keeping a mischievous dog that killed a human being. Knoller also is charged with second-degree murder.

The murder charge carries a possible sentence of

15 years to life in prison. Involuntary manslaughter is punishable by up to four years.

"We've never argued it's intentional murder," Hammer said. "It's similar to firing into a crowd — you knew it was dangerous and you did it anyway."

Noel has blamed Whipple for the attack, suggesting she should have gone inside her apartment and not reacted aggressively to the dogs.

He and Knoller were arrested at the rural, barned home of Barbara Patton-Sichel and Darrel Sichel,

clients of Noel. Authorities who followed the two to Corning had to borrow the Sichels' home fax machine to obtain the arrest warrants.

Knoller and Noel were caring for the dogs — a 120-pound male named Bane and a 113-pound female named Hera — when they attacked Whipple, who was 33 and weighed 110 pounds.

The animals were raised as part of a dog-fighting ring run out of Pelican Bay State Prison by inmates Paul Schneider and Dale Bretches, prison officials have said.

**Foot-and-mouth vaccinations discussed, dismissed**

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Tony Blair met farming leaders Thursday to discuss whether to vaccinate some dairy cattle against foot-and-mouth disease — a move some say could build a bulwark against the fast-spreading epidemic, but which others dismiss as a dangerous distraction.

National Farmers' Union president Ben Gill said after the 90-minute meeting that a decision on vaccinating should be made within a day or two, and Blair's spokesman said the government must make its choice within 48 hours.

Gill said inoculating animals was an imperfect solution that could be used to buy time while officials slaughter livestock in hopes of stopping the disease.

"Vaccination is not the solution in itself," he said. "It is part of the policy to take out the animals either infected or on the neighboring farms. That remains the key objective, (vaccination) is a means to allow us to deliver that policy. ... It is there as an option."

Gill said there were some hopeful signs. "Yesterday for the first time more animals from infected farms were slaug-tered than were

actually reported ... that is an important development," he said. There have been 742 cases confirmed so far.

On Wednesday the European Union granted Britain permission to vaccinate up to 180,000 dairy cattle to create a barrier around the hardest-hit areas of Cumbria in northwestern England and Devon, in the southwest.

"These exceptional circumstances warrant an

exceptional response," the EU said in a statement.

European governments have resisted vaccination because inoculated animals carry similar antibodies as those infected with the disease.

"Generally speaking, the problem with vaccines is that they don't protect completely against infection," Chris Bostock, director of the Institute for Animal Health, told The

Independent newspaper.

"They protect against clinical signs so you won't know that an animal has been infected. It can be replicating the virus and acting as a source of infection for animals that haven't been infected."

Others argue mass vaccination could replace the government's program of mass slaughter, which has condemned 750,000 animals, many healthy, in a bid to

stop the spread of the disease.

Peter Kindersley, an organic farmer and founder of Dorling Kindersley books, was taking the government to court Thursday in an attempt to halt the mass cull.

Slaughter remains the government's main weapon against the disease, which is harmless to humans but is bred by the livestock industry.

Official registration for new students at Bauer Magnet School, Grades 1-5, will be held on Wednesday, April 4, 2001 from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon in the principal's office.

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EDITORIAL

*"Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances."*

-FIRST AMENDMENT

Opinions expressed on this page are those of the Editorial Board of the Big Spring Herald unless otherwise indicated.

John H. Walker  
Publisher

Debbie Jensen  
Features Editor

John A. Moseley  
Managing Editor

Bill McClellan  
News Editor

OUR VIEWS

Show will be colorful as a kaleidoscope

Remember the kaleidoscope, a cylindrical toy that you looked into, then turned to create colorful pictures? Well St. Mary's Episcopal School wants to take that idea a bit further, showing off a kaleidoscope of colorful children's spring and Easter fashions in a show Saturday.

The show and a brunch fund-raiser will take place at the Dora Roberts Community Center from 10 a.m. to noon, featuring children of all ages showing off play and dress attire from area stores. It comes just in time for parents who need to get started on their seasonal shopping.

While you don't have to buy a ticket, reservations should be made by noon Friday by calling the school, 263-0203. Donations will be accepted with proceeds going to the school and its programs.

Children who will be participating in the show range in age from 3 to 12 and attend St. Mary's Episcopal School.

Organizers say they have had a good response from parents and children, expecting about 60 students to be models. In addition, they have secured clothing from some local retailers as well as a few out-of-town stores.

Currently, stores participating include Walmart, Gaze Crystal Kitchen from Big Spring and Gap Kids, Dillard's, Ann McCann and Limited Too from Midland.

Funds raised will go toward providing equipment and facilities for students, including a new multi-purpose building that is currently in the planning stages.

Make your plans now, and call for a reservation, to see the St. Mary's "Kaleidoscope A Children's Fashion Show."

OTHER VIEWS

Syria's move to ask the upcoming Arab League summit to reactivate the Arab economic boycott of Israel in the hopes to bring the Jewish state to its knees might look good on paper. But in reality, few doubt that the Syrian led crusade will succeed.

True, Arab leaders from east to west are under pressure from their populations to take tangible decisions against Israel, especially after hard liner Ariel Sharon was elected prime minister.

Everyone knows that any future decision on a boycott will be non-binding for Egypt and Jordan, the only two Arab countries to have signed peace treaties that have paved the way for wide-ranging bilateral exchanges, including trade and investments.

Instead of wasting energies to score public relations gains, Arabs would be better off if they decided once and for all on practical measures to support the Palestinians through offering solid financial and political support.

THE JORDAN TIMES

U.S. President George W. Bush is a well-scheduled man. January was spent flirting with the Democrats and giving them all nicknames, February was spent promoting his tax-cut plan; and March has been Asia month, as he met the leaders of Japan, South Korea and China. Bush's handlers call this kind of scheduling

'staying on message' meaning, they do not want him to say or do more than one thing at a time, for that would only give the media too much to chew on and confuse the public, which has the attention span of a gnat, they believe.

The administration has stumbled on at least two occasions in recent months - on Iraqi sanctions and negotiations with North Korea - because White House political operatives intervened to reverse promising policy feelers emanating from elsewhere in the administration.

The victim was Secretary of State Colin Powell, who had indicated a willingness to change Iraqi sanctions policy and declared that the US would continue to negotiate seriously with North Korea, only to have his pronouncements summarily contradicted by the White House.

Obviously, when it came to a contest between good policy and good politics, the latter won. Bush stayed on message all right - 'those North Koreans are crazy'; 'Saddam must go' but it is doubtful if he made any good policy in the process.

The new administration has yet to show it knows the difference between complexities born of simplifications and those which arise from a nuanced understanding of the world.

STRAITS TIMES, SINGAPORE

There was new life at Victory Church

Purple thrift shone like amethysts among the gray headstones of the Words, the Causeys, the Tisingers. Families with deep roots in these red hills.

Pastures beyond the old churchyard were apple-green, the color that comes and goes too quickly. It was fragile, early spring.

The quiet of the bucolic community called Victory was disturbed. But the noise and confusion somehow was triumphant. It was a coronation of sorts, the crowning of a building.

On a recent early morning, a few of us stood and watched a crane operator use equipment and nerves of steel to lift a steeple from the ground and place it atop the brand-new Victory United Methodist Church.

The old sanctuary - 102 years old, in fact - had burned to the ground in a fire caused by lightning

one hot, woeful August night in 1999. Members quickly vowed to replace the landmark, to rebuild as close to the original as possible.

And they did. Builder brothers named Joyner conscientiously duplicated the look, if not the exact materials, of the century-old edifice. Quickly, the hole in the landscape was filled.

So this was a great moment, watching the steeple swing through a cloudy sky to land precisely in its preordained spot. Barry Antle and Ronnie Russell of Campbellsville, Ky., had been hired to build and install the steeple. They proudly call themselves "the steeple people."

Like a malt-shop dropping the cherry on the sundae, that fearless crane operator placed the steeple on a three-story bell tower.

Nobody clapped, but there was genuine joy in the faces of Victory members. Some of the same people who had watched helplessly as their church burned now saw it crowned.

I've thought a lot about this particular story since the fire left ashes and the community anguished. Victory has only 14 mem-

bers, meets only once a month.

But size didn't matter when the drive to rebuild began. Baptists and Episcopalians and Presbyterians - and I suspect a few agnostics - all contributed to the effort. People from Alaska and Arizona, folks who have never seen the green of a Georgia spring, sent checks. For Victory Church - which is the short moniker everyone uses - was more than a party of 14.

Victory Church was a gathering spot, a picnic grounds, a tourist attraction, a good way to give directions. It was a visual asset to a landscape where suburban sprawl threatens. Victory Church was the eagle on the quarter, Big Dipper in a purple sky. To lose it was to lose an old friend.

We all get a little proprietary in this day of organizations, affiliations, denominations, polarizing politics. We get a little selfish. We must.

Every day the mail bombards us with solicitations for causes. So we protect ourselves from feeling the pain of each and every sad situation. We have to. Now and then, though,

there is a proud and rallying moment when a community works in concert, guard down, with enthusiasm. We come together and care.

Something about Victory Church was dear to the people who worshiped there - and to those who simply passed it on their way to work.

Something about it was essential to strangers who ducked inside its unlocked doors to sit and cool for a spell, or to those who "borrowed" the pavilion for a romantic picnic. It mattered to the idly curious who walked through the cemetery to read the old graves, and to those with family members buried there.

Lynn Joyner says his crew will use a special varnish to give new pine walls a darkened, older look that approximates the former, unpainted walls.

When the new church is complete, someone who's been away a couple of years might drive by and not notice, at first, that anything's changed.

That was the mission. To come as close as possible to re-creating what was lost.

On a cool spring morning, there was new life at Victory.



RHETA GRIMSLEY JOHNSON



Don't give up on the dot-coms

Since Internet usage is so ubiquitous, why did the dot-coms collapse? Will the dot-com economy recover?

On March 20, 2000, the dot-com stocks crashed, and it was a crash that was as widespread as the Internet that spawned those New Economy companies.

Quite simply, the business models did not work, either because they were based on poor assumptions or because they were premature.

The primary assumption underlying all the hope and hype was that banner ads (those ads running across the top of Web sites) would sell products and services. This was the essence of the B-to-C (business to consumer) model, and it failed. B-to-B (business to business), however, is working.

The reasons, respectively, for these failures and success were speed and need. Consumers, with little time and less attention span, concentrate on speed, whereas businesses concentrate on need.

The fact is that the Internet is slow when compared to other information

media, such as television, the telephone and newspapers. This is not true for text-only displays, which is why stock quotes on the Internet, ironically, have largely replaced stock quotes in newspapers as the information source for most investors. Online trading has been a big success.

But images on the Internet take time to appear; making image-heavy ads a time-consuming irritant for most consumers. Hence Internet advertising failed to live up to expectations, and that failure led to the failure of many dot-coms. But hope remains alive.

The B-to-C business model was simply premature. With the advent of DSL and other technologies, Internet access and display is about to speed up dramatically. No longer will consumers click on a computer mouse and wait and wait for a Web site to appear or for an image-heavy page in a Web site to finally unfold. Instead, images will pop up in a blink.

"Blink" technology will be to the Internet what direct-dial telephones were to the old crank-and-call telephones when callers had to rely upon operators to connect every call - clearly an inhibiting factor for telemarketing.

And while most of us are not fond of telemarketing,

the analogy is appropriate. If a rash of telemarketing companies had raised huge sums of money in public offerings during the telephone's formative years, they too would have gone the way of today's dot-coms, and for one reason: They would have been premature.

The Internet will soon prove to be a significant consumer aid, rather than a time-consuming irritant. Speed will revolutionize the Internet and the way consumers shop. Images will pop up in a blink. They will be in color, three dimensional, panoramic and even interactive. Prices will be competitive, because they will be instantly comparable.

But the Internet will not replace the brick-and-mortar store. It will expand it. It will improve consumers' ability to do their homework. Physical stores and online stores will be more complementary than competitive. When will this happen? It is happening now. The dot-coms are not going to go the way of the tulip bubble in 17th century Holland, when a craze for tulips momentarily drove their value to hundreds of thousands of dollars, or any of the other boom-and-bust phenomena throughout history.

The Internet is here to stay, and so is Internet commerce.

ADDRESSES

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HOWARD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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- **EMMA BROWN** - Home: 267-2649.
- **JERRY KILGORE** - 263-0724; Work (Jerry's Barbers): 267-5471.
- **BILL CROOKER** - Home: 263-2566.
- **GARY SIMER** - Home: 263-0269; Work (Ponderosa Nursery): 263-4441.

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- **STEPHANIE HORTON** - Home: 264-0306; Work (VA Medical Center): 263-7361.
- **CHUCK CAWTHON** - Home: 263-7490; Work (Chuck's Surplus): 263-1142.
- **TOMMY TUNE** - Home: 267-4652; Work (Howard College): 264-5000.
- **JOANN SMOOT** - Home: 267-6965; Work (BSISD): 264-3600.

SCHOOL NEWS

On March 23, F Elementary held the Rope for Heart I raise money for American Association. Each came to the event regularly scheduled noon P.E. time arranged various jumping rope whirling to '50s music. Members came and their children joined and enjoyed the afternoon.

Daphne Kentwood parent, local business owner donations and they by donating prizes. Prizes will also prizes from the AH donations they individually. K PTA and local by also donated refreshment.

Another treat Kentwood students presence of sever School "celebrity students came to jump rope and refreshments. They wore uniforms to areas of school they represented.

High school par were: Ms BSHS Ashley, Football Hughes, Bowe But

MEDLIN

Continued from Page

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The data reveals percent of 300 live cases at 22 hospital linked to Tylenol percent of 307 severe liver injury also linked to Tylenol.

What seems to be ing is that people a prescription like Vicodin (gene acetaminophen/hydrocodone) propoxyphene (brand name Dar even something counter like Tylenol Cold and then taking Tylenol, perhaps r ing they are adding surprising the safety of Tylenol recom

According to Le want labels to men failure because c don't realize that ing is easy and da Lee recommend amount, or for strength pills, which include acetar (Tylenol) that is p other medicines y taking.

I can't stress er importance of lab enough; doing research on the tions you may be t help you unders you are taking the have and how the

If you have a about the medica are taking or do stand what is on t call to a local pharmacist proven to be very me both as a nurse consumer.

Finally, as I have people in the pa are not serious a mitting suicide - it with Tylenol, attempt doesn't s may leave you severely damaged in the worst case requiring you to liver transplant.



Mallard Fillmore by BRUCE TINSLEY

COMING SUNDAY MOVIE EARTH TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE FAITH

**SCHOOL NEWS**

On March 23, Kentwood Elementary held their Jump Rope for Heart Event to raise money for the American Heart Association. Each class came to the event at their regularly scheduled afternoon P.E. time and demonstrated various ways of jumping rope while listening to '50s music. Many parents came and watched their children jump rope and enjoyed the fun-filled afternoon.

Daphne Castilaw, Kentwood parent, contacted local business owners for donations and they obliged by donating prizes. The students will also receive prizes from the AHA for the donations they collected individually. Kentwood PTA and local businesses also donated refreshments.

Another treat for the Kentwood students was the presence of several High School "celebrities." The students came to mingle, jump rope and hand out refreshments. The students wore uniforms to match the areas of school activities they represented.

High school participants were: Ms BSHS-Scharlett Ashley, Football — Jade Hughes, Bowe Butler, Cody

Rubio, and Jason Chate; Cheerleaders — Britania Perez, and Erica DeLeon; Baseball — Clint Bammert and Ryan Guinn; Girls Basketball — Melissa Flenniken; Softball — Christina Gwyn; Track — Joseph Bumbulis; Gymnastics — Stephanie Stewart; Swimming — Doug Willberg; Boys Basketball — Austin Nutting and Mic Fleming; and UIL Speaking Events and Volunteer Coordinator — Amber Dunlap.

Kentwood students had

been collecting donations for two weeks prior to the jumprope event and the grades collected the amounts as follows: First Grade: \$520.25, Second Grade: \$400.92, Third Grade: \$482, Fourth Grade: \$582, Fifth Grade \$361.39 (\$2346.56)

Top collectors for the school were Kady Knox, fifth grade, with donations totaling \$251.39 and first grader, Eden Wennik with \$201. Jennifer and Joshua Castilaw together collected \$200.

Kentwood students clowned around with high school "celebrities" during their Jump Rope for Heart event on Friday. Back row from left, Christina Gwyn, Ryan Guinn, Jason Choate, Cody Rubio; middle row, Erica DeLeon, Brittanica Perez and Kentwood student Belle Feaster; front row, second graders Lucas Ontiveros, Iliana Lujan, Garrett Skelton, Patricia Morales and Rachel Johnston.

Courtesy photo



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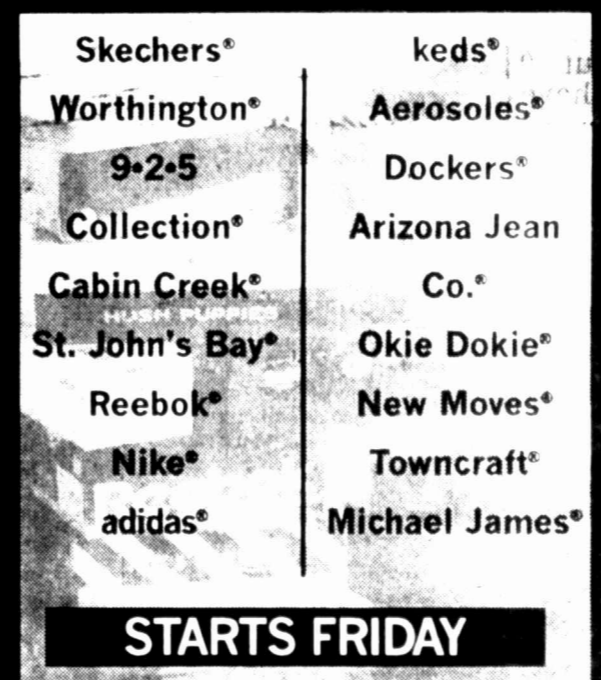
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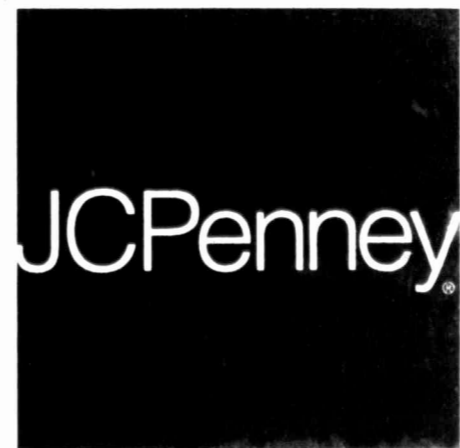
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FINAL DAYS TO SAVE Sale ends Sunday, April 1, 2001

Sale prices effective 3/30-3/31/01 unless otherwise noted. Percentages off regular prices, unless noted. Regular prices are offering prices which may not have resulted in actual sales. Intermediate markdowns may have been taken on original prices; reductions on original prices effective until stock is depleted. Any event designated as a "sale" excludes Value Right merchandise. Merchandise selection may vary from one JCPenney store to another.

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Entire Stock Accent Rugs

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**MEDLIN**

Continued from Page 3A

growing concern that people are taking too much Tylenol (acetaminophen is its generic name) and may not be aware of it.

According to data collected by Dr. William Lee of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, Tylenol overdoses could be a big cause of liver failure.

The data revealed that 38 percent of 300 liver failure cases at 22 hospitals were linked to Tylenol and 35 percent of 307 cases of severe liver injury were also linked to Tylenol.

What seems to be happening is that people are taking a prescription medication like Vicodin (generic name acetaminophen/hydrocodone), propoxyphene/APAP (brand name Darvocet) or even something over-the-counter like Tylenol PMS or Tylenol Cold and Flu and then taking regular Tylenol, perhaps not realizing they are adding to or surpassing the safe amount of Tylenol recommended.

According to Lee, critics want labels to mention liver failure because consumers don't realize that overdosing is easy and dangerous.

Lee recommends half that amount, or four extra strength pills, which should include acetaminophen (Tylenol) that is part of the other medicines you may be taking.

I can't stress enough the importance of label-reading enough; doing a little research on the medications you may be taking can help you understand why you are taking the pills you have and how they work.

If you have a question about the medications you are taking or don't understand what is on the label, a call to a local pharmacy has proven to be very helpful to me both as a nurse and as a consumer.

Finally, as I have warned people in the past, if you are not serious about committing suicide — don't do it with Tylenol. If your attempt doesn't succeed it may leave you with a severely damaged liver and, in the worst case scenario, requiring you to have a liver transplant.

COMING SUNDAY: MOVING EARTH TO MAKE ROOM FOR THE FAITHFUL.

Midland Park Mall

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HOROSCOPE

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, March 30.

Your sense of direction carries you through any problems. Don't hesitate to express your curiosity when seeking out answers. You might even decide to go back to school. With your strong drive and direction, anything is possible. Curb a tendency to stress out at night. Try exercise or another stress-reducing activity. If you are single, you meet people easily. GEMINI loves to be with you.

The Stars Show the Kind of Day You'll Have: 5-Dynamic; 4-Positive; 3-Average; 2-So-so; 1-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19) \*\*\*\*\* If you're not sure, stop and ask questions. You will quickly clear out any confusion. Direct your high energy in order to avoid unusual frustration. You might be overwhelmed by everything you need to do. Tonight: Out at a favorite spot.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) \*\*\* You might not want to share what is going on with you. Be careful how involved you get in a secret relationship. You might be OK with it right now, but you might not be later. A superior's idea could prove to be a money-maker. Tonight: Let go.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) \*\*\*\*\* You're full of fun and lightness. A friend opens the window of opportunity for you. Jump right in and make what you want happen. A partner or associate might care a lot, but he might show it by being difficult. Tonight: Accept a surprise invitation.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) \*\*\* Take a deep breath and think through an important decision. If you are uncomfortable about a situation, do something about it. You have the power to make changes. Start a diet or health plan. Tonight: Vanish happily.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) \*\*\*\*\* A child or loved one throws a fit, but you can deal with it. Be especially careful about how you deal with finances and a partner. Unexpected developments could surprise you. Allow others to express themselves. Tonight: Where the gang is.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) \*\*\* Deal with another's insecurity, and both of you will gain. You might feel frustrated or pressured. Don't lose your cool. Ultimately, you gain because of your diligence and caring. You juggle different demands. Let stress dissolve. Tonight: A must appearance.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) \*\*\*\*\* Reach out for someone at a distance. Seek out different points of view. Think through a problem that involves a child or loved one. Pick and choose your words with care, knowing your ultimate goal. Don't kid yourself about a flirtation. Tonight: Fake off ASAP.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) \*\*\*\*\* Another doesn't agree with a financial decision you make. You could feel confused or out of sorts. Taking a risk right now could cause problems. Tonight: Go along with another's plans.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) \*\*\*\*\* Your high energy and forceful style could challenge another far more than you are aware. If you find someone reacting, slow down and have a heart-to-heart talk. You might be more agitated than you realize. Answer your messages. A surprise could be in the offing. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) \*\*\*\*\* Pace yourself, and you'll accomplish a lot more than you anticipate. Communicate exactly what it is that you want and expect from another. You might be holding in your anger and frustration about an important matter. Check out an expense before paying it. Tonight: Put up your feet.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) \*\*\*\*\* Your playfulness comes out with a friend who can sometimes be a bit tough. Allow this person to take the lead in a meeting or in planning a get-together. You have a good time wherever you are. Tonight: Let the good times roll.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) \*\*\* You might not be as clear as you would like to be about a personal matter. You could be running from one fire to another. Listen to your intuition about a family member or a change in the household. Tonight: Skip on home.

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By BETTY DEBNAM

Pioneer Women of the West

The Mini Page celebrates Women's History Month with a story about the pioneer women of the West.

Who were they?



Many Native American women had been living in the West for generations before the overlanders arrived. This photo was taken on a reservation in Idaho in the late 1800s. Many of the women were in the West, too.

The women of the West also included Alaians who came by ship and South Americans who came by ship and overland.



Women often held the reins and drove the animals that pulled the wagons. This is an artist's idea of what life on the trail was like.

Overlanders from many different backgrounds traveled overland on foot and in covered wagons. Like the men, women were seeking a better life for themselves and their families. Along the trail, they suffered from disease, hunger and other hardships.

The Westward Movement



The Mississippi River was the dividing line between the East and West.

The movement from east to west in the United States started in the 1800s. The first arrivals were usually men. Gold was the big attraction between the years of 1843 and 1860.



The Great Plains is a vast area between the East and West. It includes parts of what is now Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, North and South Dakota, Montana, Wyoming, New Mexico, Texas and Oklahoma.

Land was the big attraction in the 1860s. In 1862, the U.S. government offered 160 acres to people who would settle parts of the West. They had to plant a crop, build a house and live there for five years before they could own the land. This was called "homesteading."

Home, sweet home

The building materials that were close by determined in what kind of house the pioneer woman set up housekeeping.

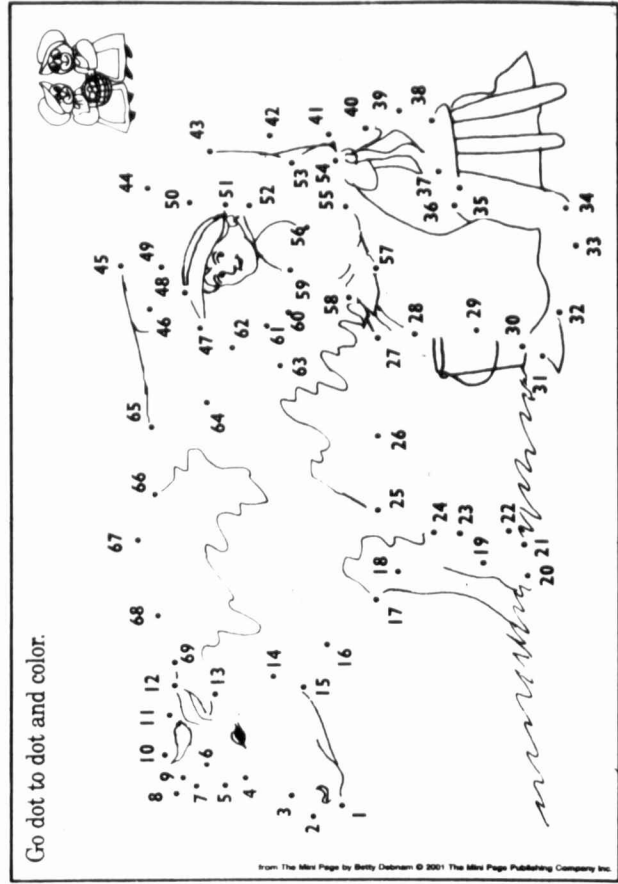


If there were trees available, families like this one in Colorado built their home of logs. Notice that most of the girls are wearing clothes from the same bolt of cloth.



African-Americans also came west after the Civil War. A family poses in front of their sod home in Nebraska. Sod homes were made of packed dirt cut out of the ground and stacked like bricks.

Native Americans might have built their teepees of buffalo hide. Pueblo Indians built apartment-like homes of stones coated with a mixture of clay and straw. Other families built adobe homes of mud bricks that had been baked in the sun.



Co dot to dot and color.

Rookie Cookies Recipe Pioneer Biscuits

You'll need: 2 cups all-purpose flour, 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1/2 teaspoon baking soda, 1 teaspoon salt, 1 cup sour cream. What to do: 1. Combine all ingredients except sour cream in a large bowl. Mix well. 2. Stir in sour cream. Mix to make a soft dough. 3. Turn onto a floured surface. Knead about 2 minutes. 4. Roll dough to about 1/2 inch thick. Cut out biscuits using a cookie cutter or drinking glass turned upside down. 5. Place on a greased baking sheet. Cook in a preheated 400-degree oven for 12 minutes or until done. Makes about 1 1/2 dozen.

Kids! You're Invited to the White House. A Kid's Guide to the White House is a terrific behind-the-scenes look at a very special house. Written with the cooperation of the White House Historical Association, the book is full of fun, information, photos (some in full color) and puzzles that kids of all ages will enjoy.

Goldie Goodsport's Report Supersport: Rebecca Lobo. Height: 6-4 Birthdate: 10-6-73 College: U. of Connecticut. One of the stars of the New York Liberty basketball team is forward Rebecca Lobo. She joined the team in 1997. In 1998 she led the team in several categories, including rebounds (6.9 per game) and blocked shots (1.1 per game). She was the youngest member of the 1996 Women's Olympic Team that won the gold medal. Rebecca played saxophone in her high school band. She graduated from college in 1995 with a degree in political science. She works with several charities. When her basketball career ends she would like to work in broadcasting. Some of her favorite foods are lasagna and cookies in cream ice cream.

Meet mytown. One of the newest groups to hit the music scene is mytown, a group from Terry, Marc, Paul, Danny. The members are Terry Daly, Marc Sheehan, Paul Walker and Danny O'Donoghue. The band was formed in 1996 when the members were studying at a performing arts school. At the school, Marc was a choreographer, Paul was an actor, Terry was a graphic design student and Danny was studying music. Terry's favorite sport is soccer, and he likes chocolate chip cookies. Danny likes soccer and Chinese food. Paul likes soccer, and his favorite color is red. Marc likes playing video games.

MIGHTY FUNNY'S Funny Phonics. It's fun to learn phonics, or the way letters sound. This week's target sound is the one made by the letters EE as in the word tree. Brad: What does "climate" mean? Monica: It's what a boy does when he sees a tree! Les: What is red and says "Beep, beep"? Pat: A strawberry in a traffic jam! Gina: Why were the man's pants so short? Frank: Because they stuck out two feet!

Pioneer Women TRY 'N FIND. Words that remind us of pioneer women are hidden in the block below. Some words are hidden backward or diagonally. See if you can find: WOMEN, ASIAN, WEST, AFRICAN AMERICAN, PLAINS, HISPANIC, CALIFORNIA, COWGIRLS, WASHING, COOKING, SOD, SEWING, PLANTING, MATERIALS, WORK, MOTHER, HARSH.

Mini Spy... Mini Spy is plowing a field the way the pioneer women did. See if you can find: ladder, word MINI, doughnut, whale, pencil, letter Y, ruler, chicken, letter H, squirrel, heart, snake, number 3.

Pioneer Women of the West

Pioneer women usually led isolated and lonely lives. Many of their journals are filled with stories of how they longed to have another woman to talk with. Neighbors often lived miles away. Before churches and towns were built, there were few places to gather. Women had to be very independent and able to survive with only the support of their family. Many of the skills they had used keeping house back East came in handy. They also had to learn many new skills they did not know they had.

A grid of 12 illustrations showing pioneer women performing various tasks: sewing, preparing food, gardening, boiling fat and lye, getting water, getting in the harvest, branding cattle, bringing up children, and teaching children. Each illustration is accompanied by a short text description of the activity.

The Mini Page/NIE. Sponsored by: Wells Fargo Bank, Cosden Employees Federal Credit Union, The Choate Co., Harold Hall, Mike Thomas, Power Resources, Inc. Tomorrow's workforce is in today's classrooms. Sponsored by: ATS Telcom, Bob & Susan Lewis, Myers & Smith Funeral Home & Chapel, Myra Robinson, Alon-Big Spring Refinery, John Rheinsfeld, Energas.

S

IN B

CHS junior team to run

The Coahoma high track team will be at the footbal beginning 4 p.m. The field begin at 4 p.m. running even a 5 p.m. start.

Coahoma H Invitational

The Coah School track host their track meet Stadium on S. The field begin at 9 a. preliminaries 11:15 and the at 2:30 p.m.

Baseball sig be held Sat

Baseball s players ages held at the R Complex Sat 10 a.m. to 3 p. Please bring tificate and t up fee. Anyor in coaching return equi contact Sheri 263-2917 after

Women's s seeking pla

The Big Sp Girls Softball is seeking wc older to play softball. Registratio teams are nov For more call Alicia Bu 0216

Industrial le softball sig

Anyone w participate in league, the s entry fees Friday, April The entry fe there is a 20 r limit. For more contact Sally 5237 or 268-472

Athletic de offers physi

The BSIS department athletic physi one in the 6 11th grade (7 year). The athleti are required who wish to p Athletics ente or 9th grade c do not alre ly Physical w at BSHS Saturday at 9 6th graders, 1 8th-11th grad

Lifeguard ce course offer

There will be certification offered Frida and Sunday Spring Family Registration to 12 people. Y at least 16 y and be able t yards.

The cost is \$ son and the f first aid and cations. The cours instructed l Smith. To register Owens St. or tration fee to P.O. Box 1428.

ON TH

Television COLLEGE BASK 8 p.m. — Tulsa, ESPN. NBA 7 p.m. — Uta Antonio Spurs. TENNIS Noon — Ter Series, ESPN. GOLF 3 p.m. — PC Classic, first rou

### IN BRIEF

#### CHS junior high track team to run Friday

The Coahoma junior high track team will run at the football stadium beginning 4 p.m. Friday.

The field events will begin at 4 p.m. and the running events are set for a 5 p.m. start.

#### Coahoma High School Invitational Saturday

The Coahoma High School track teams will host their invitational track meet at Bulldog Stadium on Saturday.

The field events will begin at 9 a.m., running preliminaries are set for 11:15 and the finals start at 2:30 p.m.

#### Baseball sign-ups will be held Saturday

Baseball sign-ups for players ages 13-16 will be held at the Roy Anderson Complex Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please bring a birth certificate and the \$40 sign-up fee. Anyone interested in coaching or need to return equipment may contact Sheri Nichols at 263-2917 after 5 p.m.

#### Women's softball seeking players

The Big Spring United Girls Softball Association is seeking woman 20 and older to play fast pitch softball.

Registration is \$30 and teams are now forming.

For more information call Alicia Buzbee at 264-0216

#### Industrial league softball sign-ups

Anyone wanting to participate in the softball league, the sign-ups and entry fees deadline is Friday, April 6.

The entry fee is \$385 and there is a 20 roster sign-up limit.

For more information contact Sally Grant at 393-5237 or 268-4728.

#### Athletic department offers physicals

The BSISD Athletic department is offering athletic physicals for anyone in the 6th through 11th grade (7th-12th next year).

The athletic physicals are required for students who wish to participate in Athletics entering the 7th or 9th grade or those who do not already have one.

Physical will be given at BSHS auditorium Saturday at 9:45 a.m. for 6th graders, 10:30 a.m. for 8th-11th graders.

#### Lifeguard certification course offered

There will be a lifeguard certification course offered Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Big Spring Family YMCA.

Registration is limited to 12 people. You must be at least 16 years of age and be able to swim 500 yards.

The cost is \$100 per person and the fee includes first aid and CPR certifications.

The course will be instructed by Harlan Smith.

To register come by 801 Owens St. or send registration fee to the YMCA, P.O. Box 1428.

### ON THE AIR

#### Television COLLEGE BASKETBALL

8 p.m. — Alabama vs. Tulsa, ESPN.

#### NBA

7 p.m. — Utah Jazz at San Antonio Spurs, TNT.

#### TENNIS

Noon — Tennis Masters Series, ESPN.

#### GOLF

3 p.m. — PGA, Bellsouth Classic, first round, USA.

## Howard College Rodeo team set for tonight's performance

By KAMILAH WARD  
Sports Writer

It's rodeo time again in Big Spring as Howard College's Hawks and Lady Hawks are primed to play host to the nation's top collegiate cowboys and cowgirls during the Howard College Rodeo which begins tonight at the Big Spring Rodeo Bowl.

The rodeo's opening performance begins at 7 tonight. The second performance begins at 7 p.m. Friday and the rodeo will conclude with the short-go round beginning at 7 p.m. Saturday.

"It's the only game in town, with no substitutions and no time outs," said Howard head coach Greg Kernick as he prepared his team for the weekend's competition.

The Howard squads will be performing in front of a hometown audience after having competed at the Odessa College Rodeo last week.

Ross Ericsson won the short-go round in the bareback riding with a score of 75 points to lead the Hawks' production in Odessa, while Shawn Patrick placed fourth on his first bull with a score of 72 points, only to finish out of the lead when he failed to stay aboard for eight seconds in the short round.

Tonight's performance will feature some of the top rodeo talent in the Southwest Region can offer. And since the Southwest Region is the nation's strongest, that means the best in collegiate rodeo is on tap.

And some of the "best" hail from Howard College.

Ericsson, a freshman, is leading the region in bareback riding while sophomore steer wrestler Seth McFaddin ranks among the top five in his event. Both are coming off of strong performances, in Odessa.

In fact, the Hawks team which is currently standing No. 1 in the

National Intercollegiate Rodeo Association's Southwest Region.

Among the field of 15 schools, other competitors performing tonight will be from Western Texas College, Tarleton State University, Sul Ross State University, West Texas A&M University, Odessa College, New Mexico Junior College, Cisco Junior College, Weatherford College, Eastern New Mexico University, Vernon Regional Junior College, Frank Phillips Junior College, Texas Tech University, Mesa Technical and Angelo State University.

The rodeo's field will compete in an array of events — calf roping, breakaway roping, bareback riding, team roping, saddle bronc riding, bull riding and steer wrestling over the three-day event.

Slack competition will begin following tonight's performance and continue at 9 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

The theme seems to be community effort for the Howard College rodeo, as much of the effort and support has come from the 40 rodeo team members, community and faculty members who have come out to help with preparations for this weekend.

"The community has been real supportive for us," said Kernick. It takes quite a bit of support to run a rodeo and it's obvious the community and rodeo team members are taking pride in the weekend's festivities.

This year's rodeo will be dedicated to Everett Blackburn, who worked in Big Spring for 22 years and 11 years as Howard College's head athletic trainer.

Stock for the rodeo will be provided by Mitch Terrell's TNT Rodeo Co. Tickets for the rodeo will be \$5 each and children 12 and under receive free admission with an adult.



Big Spring's Leina Braxton (9) takes a swing during the Lady Steers' 10-0 win over Levelland's Lady Lobos Friday. The Lady Steers will return to action Friday when they take on Frenship's Lady Tigers for the second time in District 4-4A softball.

## Sands' girls, boys track teams run over competition

HERALD Staff Report

ACKERLY — Sands' Mustangs and Lady Mustangs track teams almost dominated their own track meet, as the boys took the Mustang Relays team title with 122 points while the girls' squad placed second with 881/4 points.

The boys' distance runners led the way, sweeping the 3,200 meters. Emanuel Martinez posted a time of 10:18.04 for first place. Jose Martinez followed close behind with a time of 10:22.99 for second and Steven Barraza closed out the 1-2-3 sweep in 11:18.88.

The threesome also swept the 1,600 meters as well with Jose Martinez winning with a time of 4:43.99, followed by Emanuel Martinez who finished at 4:53.28. Barraza was third in a time of 5:06.17.

Carlos Plata won the 800 meters with a 2:09.93 clocking while Salvador Martinez was second, posting a time of 2:13.63. S. Martinez and Plata place fifth and sixth, respectively, in the 400 meters and then teamed with Dusty Floyd and Josh Segundo to take second place in the mile relay finishing in a time of 3:47.66.

Hale Looney won the 100 meters in 11.31 and returned in the 200 meters to take second in a time of 23.49, while Floyd finished at 23.63 for fourth.

In the field events, Floyd was second in the discus

with a 122-1 mark and finished sixth in the shot put with a 38-51/4 heave. Brandon Woods placed third in the pole vault, clearing 8 feet.

The girls competed in five running events. Leading the way was Jessica Dewett who won the 400 meters in a time of 1:06.73, while teammate Deisi Porras was second at 1:08.25.

Dewett and Porras teamed with Brandi Woods and Chelsea Ybarra to place third in the mile relay in a time of 4:39.17. Dewett, Woods, Ybarra then combined with Shelli Blagrove for third place in the sprint relay, posting a time of 56.21.

Gracie Diaz finished fourth in 100 meters and 200 meters. In the 100, she had a time of 14.31 and in the 200 she finished at 29.83. Ana Plata rounded out the running events production by finishing sixth in the 1,600 meters with a time of 6:42.08.

In the field events, Blagrove was second in the triple jump with a mark of 30-3. Diaz split third place in the high jump clearing 4-2, while Dewett finished fourth in the long jump with a 14-21/2 leap.

In the shot put, Porras finished fourth with 26-91/4 heave. Cindy Martinez followed in fifth with a 25-71/4, while Aubrey Foster was sixth at 25-31/4.

The Mustangs and Lady Mustangs will compete in the Klondike meet Saturday.

## Yankees trade Hill, A's deal Olivares

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

Glenallen Hill and Omar Olivares found new addresses as teams got ready to set their opening-day rosters.

Hill, a key addition as the New York Yankees won their third straight World Series last year, was traded to the Anaheim Angels on Wednesday for Double-A outfielder Darren Blakely.

"I think he was just happy that something was done," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "He's been hanging around here for a week or so knowing somebody was going to go."

Hill's role became superfluous when New York signed free agent outfielder Henry Rodriguez, acquired backup Michael Coleman from Cincinnati last week and shifted Chuck Knoblauch from second base to left field.

After making the deal, Anaheim released Jose Canseco, in camp with the Angels on a minor league contract, but slowed by injuries this spring.

"Jose worked real hard getting himself into shape," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said. "It was just a matter of us getting a guy that can be a little more

durable with an explosive bat."

Olivares, who lost to Cory Lidle in the competition to be Oakland's fifth starter, was traded to pitching-depleted Pittsburgh for a player to be named.

Olivares is in the final season of a contract that will pay him \$4 million this year. The A's will pay about half of Olivares' salary.

With three Pirates starting pitchers out for at least another month with injuries — Kris Benson (elbow), Jason Schmidt (rib cage pull) and Francisco Cordova (elbow) — Olivares becomes Pittsburgh's No. 4 starter.

"He's a guy who's been around and won't be overwhelmed. He knows how to pitch, and we need players like that," Pirates manager Lloyd McClendon said.

Elsewhere, Nomar Garciaparra will rest his sore right wrist a few more days in a last hope that time, not surgery, is what's needed.

A day after Garciaparra said the probability of surgery was "extremely high," he and general manager Dan Duquette had a 1-hour conference call with team doctor Bill Morgan

and decided to postpone the decision on surgery a little longer.

"It's that last gleam of hope, I guess," Garciaparra said in Fort Myers, Fla.

If Garciaparra has surgery, he'll likely miss at least 2 months.

At Kissimmee, Fla., Greg Maddux was struck in the foot by a hard grounder and could miss the season opener for Atlanta.

"It's sore, but I don't think it's that bad," Maddux said. The impact cut a toe and split a toenail on Maddux's left foot. He recovered to throw out Houston's Glen Barker to end the second inning, but limped off the field.

Also, Ramon Martinez asked for and received his unconditional release after the Dodgers picked up Eric Gagne as their fifth starter.

"This was hard. We love Ramon," general manager Kevin Malone. "It was a difficult decision. We just thought Eric earned it."

Elsewhere, the Dodgers traded pitcher Mike Judd to Tampa Bay for a player to be named and released utilityman F.P. Santangelo.

Pitcher Matt Clement and

See **BASEBALL**, page 2B

## George Karl signs deal making him part-owner in Milwaukee

ST. FRANCIS, Wis. (AP) — George Karl has a history of feuding with NBA owners. Now, he's a part-owner himself.

Karl signed a two-year contract extension with the Milwaukee Bucks on Wednesday worth a reported \$14 million, plus a small sliver of the franchise, believed to be 1 to 2 percent.

Karl joined the Bucks in 1998 after he was fired by the Seattle SuperSonics despite six seasons with 55 or more victories, and he will make his third straight trip to the NBA playoffs with Milwaukee.

Owner Herb Kohl wanted to reward him not only by making him the highest-paid coach in professional sports without executive duties but by conferring on him a small piece of the team itself.

"That's been the fantastic thing about coming here," Karl said. "There were a lot of people who said I couldn't have a good relationship with ownership. There were a lot of people who've said I've had trouble with organizations."

"I think when philosophi-

cally I was given the room that I needed, I've shown a lot of people that I can be a part — a big part — of a very successful organization going in the right direction," Karl said. "And I'm proud of that."

And Karl is celebrating by spreading the wealth.

Agent Bret Adams said the deal's final hang-up was determining how Karl could distribute bonuses out of his paycheck to more than 60 members of the team's staff.

"I represent a lot of guys in this business and I've not seen a situation where a guy will take a portion of his contract and provide bonuses to everyone in the organization," Adams said.

It's believed Karl will hand out bonuses totaling well over \$100,000 in the next two weeks to everyone from assistant coaches to salespeople in the front office.

Terms weren't revealed, but a source with knowledge of the deal said the two-year extension is worth \$7 million per year and also

See **KARL**, page 2B

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SPORTS EXTRA

NCAA TOURNEY

**FINAL FOUR**  
At The Metrodome  
Michigan State (28-4) vs. Arizona (27-7), 5:42 p.m.  
Duke (33-4) vs. Maryland (25-10), following first game  
**National Championship**  
Monday, April 2  
Semifinal winners, 8:18 p.m.  
\*\*\*  
**WOMEN**  
**FINAL FOUR**  
At The Savvis Center  
St. Louis  
**National Semifinals**  
Friday, March 30  
Purdue (30-6) vs. Southwest Missouri State (29-5), 6 p.m.  
Connecticut (32-2) vs. Notre Dame (32-2), 8:30 p.m.  
**National Championship**  
Sunday, April 1  
Semifinal winners, 7:30 p.m.

NIT

Today  
At Madison Square Garden  
New York  
**Third Place**  
Detroit (25-11) vs. Memphis (20-15), 5 p.m.  
**Championship**  
Alabama (25-10) vs. Tulsa (25-11), 8 p.m.

TRANSACTIONS

**BASEBALL**  
**American League**  
ANAHEIM ANGELS—Traded OF Darren Blakely to the New York Yankees for OF DH Gianellin Hill (released). DH Jose Canseco transferred to Charlotte from the 15-day to the 60-day disabled list. Optioned 1B Larry Barnes and INF Wilmy Caceres to Salt Lake of the PCL. Reassigned INF Jose Fernandez to their minor league camp.  
CHICAGO WHITE SOX—Optioned RHP Lorenzo Barcelo and RHP Jon Garland to Charlotte of the International League.  
DETROIT TIGERS—Placed 3B Dean Palmer and C Mitch Meluskey on the 15-day disabled list.  
MINNESOTA TWINS—Placed OF John Barnes on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 23, and 2B Jay Canzaro on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 24. Reassigned RHP Willie Martinez to

NBA STANDINGS

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
x Philadelphia	49	22	69.0	—
Miami	42	28	60.0	6 1/2
New York	42	28	60.0	6 1/2
Orlando	39	32	54.9	10
Boston	32	38	45.7	16 1/2
New Jersey	25	49	33.8	25 1/2
Washington	17	54	23.9	32
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
x Milwaukee	44	26	62.9	—
Charlotte	40	31	56.3	4 1/2
Toronto	39	32	54.9	5 1/2
Indiana	32	38	45.7	12
Cleveland	26	45	36.6	18 1/2
Detroit	25	46	35.2	19 1/2
Atlanta	21	51	29.2	24
Chicago	12	58	17.1	32
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
x San Antonio	47	23	67.1	2 1/2
Utah	47	23	67.1	4
Dallas	46	25	64.8	4
Minnesota	42	29	59.2	8
Houston	39	32	54.9	11
Denver	34	38	47.2	16 1/2
Vancouver	20	52	27.8	30 1/2
Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	48	22	68.6	—
L.A. Lakers	47	25	65.3	2
Portland	46	25	64.8	2 1/2
Phoenix	43	27	61.4	5
Seattle	40	34	54.1	10
L.A. Clippers	26	46	36.1	23
Golden State	17	53	24.3	31

xclinched playoff spot  
**Wednesday's Games**  
New Jersey 99, Denver 96  
Orlando 96, Philadelphia 95  
Phoenix 103, Cleveland 94  
Dallas 94, Portland 84  
Seattle 94, Minnesota 93  
Sacramento 108, L.A. Lakers 84  
**Today's Games**  
Golden State at Washington, 6 p.m.  
Indiana at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.  
Utah at San Antonio, 7 p.m.  
Miami at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.  
Phoenix at Houston, 7:30 p.m.  
Chicago at Boston, 7:30 p.m.  
New York at Vancouver, 19 p.m.  
**Friday's Games**  
New Jersey at Toronto, 6 p.m.  
Golden State at Philly, 6 p.m.  
Indiana at Boston, 6:30 p.m.  
Denver at Charlotte, 6:30 p.m.  
Orlando at Detroit, 7 p.m.  
Cleveland at Utah, 8 p.m.  
New York at Portland, 9 p.m.  
L.A. Clippers at Seattle, 9 p.m.  
Dallas at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.  
Miami at Sacramento, 9:30 p.m.  
Chicago at Tampa Bay Devil Rays—Agreed to terms with RHP Ariel Prieto on a one-year contract. Recalled RHP Ken Hill from Durham of the International League. Designated OF Kenny Kelly for assignment.  
TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Released C Todd Greene and RHP Hector Carrasco. Optioned RHP Roy Halladay to Durham of the Florida State League, and OF Verron Wells to Syracuse of the International League. Reassigned OF Ryan Thompson to

their minor league camp.  
TEXAS RANGERS—Optioned INF Kelly Dransfeldt, INF Mike Lamb and INF Michael Young to Oklahoma of the PCL. Assigned RHP Pete Munro, C Mike Hubbard, C Dave Steed and OF Craig Munroe to Oklahoma. Placed OF Rick Ledee, RHP Dan Kolb, RHP Francisco Cordero and OF Gabe Kapler on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 23, and LHP Justin Thompson on the 60-day disabled list.  
ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS—Traded INF Harley Frazz to Minnesota for C Chad Moeller.  
ATLANTA BRAVES—Placed C Eddie Perez, OF George Lombard, RHP Kevin McElroy and RHP Scott Sokolowak on the 15-day disabled list.  
CINCINNATI REDS—Reassigned OF Deuce Sanders, INF Chris Sexton to their minor league camp. Sent INF Wilton Guerrero outright to Louisville of the International League.  
COLORADO ROCKIES—Agreed to terms with 1B Todd Helton on an 11 year contract extension. Released RHP Masato Yoshii.  
FLORIDA MARLINS—Designated OF Chad Mottola for assignment.  
HOUSTON ASTROS—Signed C Scott Servais to a minor league contract and assigned him to New Orleans of the PCL. Granted C Jeff Reed his unconditional release. Reassigned C Frank Charles and OF Scott Pose to minor league camp.  
LOS ANGELES DODGERS—Waived RHP Ramon Martinez for the purpose of giving him his unconditional release. Traded RHP Mike Judd to Tampa Bay for a player to be named.  
MONTREAL EXPOS—Reassigned C Randy Knorr, RHP Bob Scalian, RHP Felipe Lira, OF Mark Smith to Ottawa of the International League and C Jimmy Gonzalez to Harrisburg of the Eastern League. Placed OF Terry Jones on the 15-day disabled list and LHP Scott Downs, RHP Hideki Iwabuchi, RHP Carl Pavano and RHP Anthony Telford on the 15-day disabled list, retroactive to March 23.  
PITTSBURGH PIRATES—Released OF Thomas Howard.  
ST. LOUIS CARDINALS—Optioned RHP Jason Kaminich and INF Stubby Clapp to Memphis of the PCL.  
SAN DIEGO PADRES—Traded OF Eric Owens, RHP Matt Clement and RHP Omar Ortiz to Florida for OF Mark Kotsay and OF C. Crespino. Released INF Ed Sprague.  
**BASKETBALL**  
**National Basketball Association**  
NEW JERSEY NETS—Signed F Mark Strickland to a 10-day contract.  
**Hockey**  
**National Hockey League**  
CALGARY FLAMES—Recalled F Benoit Gratton from Salt Lake of the AHL.

PHOENIX COYOTES—Named Jocelyn Lemieux community NHL alumni liaison.

TAMPA BAY LIGHTNING—Reassigned RW Dmitry Afanasev and D Mikko Kuppainen to Detroit of the IHL.

SWIMMING

**USA Swimming Nationals**  
At Austin  
**Men**  
400-meter freestyle—1. Robert Margalis, Unattached, 3 minutes, 48.72 seconds. 2. Chad Carvin, Mission Viejo, 3:49.47. 3. Erik Vendt, Southern California, 3:53.15. 4. Francis Crippen, Germantown, 2:53.63. 5. Klete Keller, Southern California, 3:54.27. 6. Mark Walker, Southern California, 3:54.52. 7. Brendan Meligan, Long Island, 2:58.57. 8. Michael Murad, North Coast, 3:59.12.  
Southern California breaststroke—1. Ed Moses, Curt Burke, 1:00.29 (World record, old record 1:00.36). 2. (tie) Jarrod Morris, Curt Burke, and Anthony Robinson, Stanford, 1:01.39. 4. Brendan Hansen, Texas, 1:01.41. 5. David Deninson, Auburn, 1:02.53. 7. Wilson Brandt, Chattanooga, 1:03.36. 8. Mark Gangloff, Auburn, 1:03.60.  
400-meter freestyle relay—1. Irvine, 3:23.80. Aaron Benson, Scott Tucker, James Townsend, Jason Lezak, 2. Auburn, 3:26.03. 3. Minnesota, 3:28.13. 4. Texas A&M, 3:28.74. 5. Southern California, A, 3:29.24. 6. Tennessee, 3:30.02. 7. Southern California, 3:33.51. 8. Rockwood, 3:33.99.  
**Women**  
400-meter individual medley—1. Kaitlin Sandeno, Nellie Gators, 4:42.98. 2. Maggie Bowen, Auburn, 4:43.75. 3. Cristina Houshiet, Badger, 4:45.03. 4. Kristen Caverly, Irvine, 4:46.12. 5. Madeline Coppers, Germantown, 4:47.06. 6. Corrie Murphy, Southern California, 4:50.93. 7. Jaime Ellis, Florida, 4:52.42. 8. Tami Ransom, Cincinnati, 4:52.43.  
100-meter butterfly—1. Natalie 100-meter butterfly—1. Natalie Deszczyca, Academy Bullets, 59.39. 2. Shelly Ripple, Stanford, 59.40. 4. Bethany Goodwin, UCLA, 1:00.03. 5. Rachel Kuzmaroff, Lakeside, 1:00.43. 6. Jana Krohn, Southern California, 1:00.62.  
400-meter freestyle relay—1. Texas, 3:45.44. (Colleen Larace, Tanica Jamison, Lauren Martin, Erin Phoenix, 2. Auburn, 3:49.08. 3. Terrapins, 3:51.86. 4. Southern California, 3:53.13. 5. Dallas Mustangs, 3:53.20. 6. Irvine, 3:54.30. 7. De Anza, 3:55.18.

Tommy Amaker leaving Seton Hall for Michigan

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) Michigan needed two weeks to find the coach it wants to lead the Wolverines' basketball team.  
It was Seton Hall, however, that revealed on Wednesday that Tommy Amaker was leaving to take the Michigan job.  
"We appreciate all that Tommy has done to position our basketball program among the best in the nation," Seton Hall athletic director Jeff Fogelson said. "I'm sure that he will do the same for Michigan."  
Amaker agreed to a five-year contract with the Michigan, according to The Detroit News and ESPN.  
"This is an honor to be asked to be a coach and teacher at such a prestigious school as Michigan," Amaker told the News. "I'm thrilled because Michigan is first-class and one of the premier colleges in the country with its academics and athletics."  
Amaker will receive a guaranteed contract of between \$500,000 to \$600,000 per year. With incentives, he could earn as much as \$900,000 per season, the newspaper reported.  
Amaker will replace Brian Ellerbe, who was fired two weeks ago after posting a 62-60 record in two seasons. The Wolverines were 12-19, 15-14 and 10-18 the past three seasons and didn't finish better than eighth in the Big Ten.  
Amaker was 68-55 in four seasons at Seton Hall. The former Duke star led the Pirates to four postseason appearances, the highlight being a surprising trip to the round of 16 in last year's NCAA tournament.  
Michigan's assistant coaches were not fired along with Ellerbe.

KARL

Continued from page 1B  
Karl's alma mater, North Carolina, comes open again or if Karl decides to return to coach in Europe, according to the source.  
Karl is in the third year of his original four-year, \$20 million contract. The extension makes Karl the only coach, other than Miami's Pat Riley, to own stock in his team.  
Karl won't have to return his ownership stake unless he decides to coach another NBA team.  
Karl wanted to wait until the summer to sign the deal so it didn't detract from the Bucks' bid for their first Central Division crown since 1986. But the timetable was moved up because of rumors Karl was waiting for Mike Dunleavy to be fired in Portland so he could take the Trail Blazers' job.  
The deal was negotiated months ago and final details were finished this week.  
includes 1 to 2 percent of the franchise that is valued at \$125 million.  
Karl also could earn another \$1 million per year in performance incentives based on 50-plus victories, divisional, conference and league titles, according to the source, who spoke on condition of anonymity.  
"George's leadership and his passion for winning have had a very positive effect on the Milwaukee Bucks and on the entire community," said Kohl, a U.S. senator. "His basketball knowledge and his competitive spirit have helped restore our winning tradition."  
Karl, who turns 50 in May, is committed to the Bucks through the 2003-04 season. Escape clauses would allow him to leave earlier if the Bucks win the NBA title, if the job at

BASEBALL

Continued from page 1B



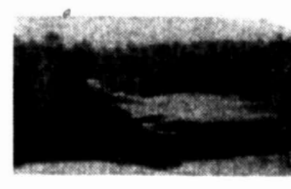

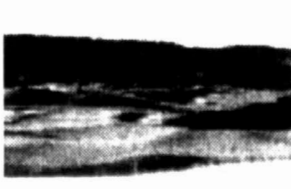
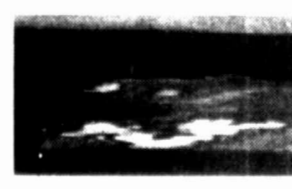


eff trader Eric Owens were traded from the San Diego Padres to the Florida Marlins for right fielder Mark Kotsay.  
Two minor leaguers also were traded in the five-player exchange. Right-hander Omar Ortiz and outfielder Cesar Crespino.  
Elsewhere, it was New York Mets 5, Los Angeles 3; Florida 4, Baltimore 3; Atlanta 4, Houston 4 in nine innings; Texas 12, Minnesota 4; Toronto 6, Pittsburgh 2; Boston 8, Tampa Bay 0; Philadelphia 4, Detroit 3; Kansas City 6, Cleveland 0; St. Louis 11, Montreal 3; Cincinnati 7, New York Yankees 3; Chicago White Sox 10, Anaheim 5; Arizona 9, San Francisco 8; Seattle 9, Colorado 9; Oakland 10, Milwaukee 9; and Chicago Cubs 5, San Diego 5.  
**Mets 5, Dodgers 3**  
Gagne gave up four runs in six innings, and New York starter Steve Trachsel went 3-for-3 with a home run while allowing just two runs in six innings.  
**Marlins 5, Orioles 3**  
Ryan Dempster allowed three runs and seven hits in six innings.  
**Braves 4, Astros 3**  
Scott Elarton allowed four runs — three earned — and nine hits in six innings, and Brad Ausmus hit a two-run homer.  
**Rangers 12, Twins 4**  
Ruben Mateo, Randy Velarde, Scott Sheldon and Craig Monroe homered.  
Mark Redman gave up eight runs and 12 hits in three innings of work against the Rangers.  
**Blue Jays 6, Pirates 2**  
Chris Michalak pitched six shutout innings.

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 <b>CAMBRIAN RIDGE</b> Greenville 36 HOLES	 <b>HIGHLAND OAKS</b> Dothan 36 HOLES	 <b>MAGNOLIA GROVE</b> Mobile 54 HOLES	 <b>CAPITOL HILL</b> Prattville 54 HOLES

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<p>01 GMC Conversion 3/4 4x4, Crew Cab. #6185</p> <p>Was \$43,075 SAVE <b>\$7,200</b></p>	<p>01 GMC 1 Ton Dually Extended Cab SLE. #9049</p> <p>Was \$30,773 NOW <b>\$28,502</b></p>	<p>01 GMC Crew Cab 4x4, 1/2 Ton, SLE. #9063</p> <p>HD 1500 1/2 Ton <b>5 in Stock</b></p>

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<p>01 GMC Donut. All Wheel Dr. #9076.</p> <p><b>\$4,000 Discount</b></p>	<p>01 GMC Sportside. NOT TRUCK. #9022.</p> <p><b>Yellow 2.9%</b></p>	<p>OD GE ELECTRIC PICKUP 1700. License, Blenders, Headlights. 30 MPG. will go 70 miles per charge. #6153</p> <p><b>SPECIAL \$6,800</b></p>	<p>01 GMC 271 Sportside. SLE. #6183.</p> <p>Was \$22,971 NOW <b>\$19,755</b></p>	<p>01 GMC 4x4 Crew Cab. 1/2 Ton. #9062.</p> <p><b>Arriving Daily</b></p>
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# 2001: The Crossroads' Odyssey

A supplement to the Big Spring Herald March 25-30, 2001

## TODAY: HOSPITALS AND HEALTH

### Hundreds gather to dedicate new VA home

10-year effort culminates in dedication of 160-bed unit for veterans

By BILL McCLELLAN  
News Editor

A 10-year effort to provide nursing care for Texas military veterans was finally realized in February when hundreds of Crossroads area citizens gathered to dedicate the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home.

"America owes so much to brave veterans like David Lamun, Joe Lusk and Reynaldo Sanchez," said Texas Land Commissioner David Dewhurst, who led the proceedings. "They and their fellow veterans gave so much to America and asked for so little in return. We must always remember that the peace we enjoy today was made possible through the sacrifices of our loyal veterans."

Although not open yet — a staff is currently being hired and put into place — the home will eventually provide beds for 160 veterans.

The facility includes a central dining area, library, barber/beauty shop, gift shop, a meditation room and recreational areas. Within the 76,000-square-foot home is a 32-bed Alzheimer's unit with a secure courtyard. Services will include physical, speech and occupational therapy, on-going health care assessments, hospice care, respite care, social services, therapeutic activities and wound care.

It is expected to employ 150 people and have an annual payroll of some \$3 million.

Many of the crowd of nearly 500 who attended the ribbon cutting ceremonies took tours after hearing



from Dewhurst, members of the Lamun, Lusk and Sanchez families, State Rep. David Counts and U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm.

Counts was cited as "father of this facility" because of the representative's multi-year effort to get it built.

"We found that Texas was one of only nine states that didn't have veterans homes. I felt like it was almost a disgrace the message we were sending to our veterans," said Counts, a Knox City Democrat.

He said the first step was to have a study conducted to see if there was a need to have a veterans home.

"The study came back and said not only do we need one home, we need 42 homes," Counts told the group.

He said that after legislation was passed that would establish four homes, Big Spring leaders worked diligently to make Howard County one of the sites.

"I think one of the things they had to look at when deciding sites was the volunteer hours this community does at the Big Spring State Hospital, Scenic Mountain Medical Center, the VA Medical Center — we knew immediately the volunteers would move right over here, too," Counts said.

Stenholm (D-Abilene), who was the key figure in

**Above, Texas Land Commissioner David Dewhurst (with scissors) was among dignitaries on hand to cut the ribbon and dedicate the Lamun-Lusk-Sanchez Texas State Veterans Home here on Feb. 19. Above, right, the family of Joe Lusk was presented with the soldier's medals by U.S. Rep. Charles Stenholm as part of the ceremony. At right, the home is not open yet, as a staff is being assembled.**



File photos

providing federal support for the home, called it a pact between the state of Texas and the United States of America.

"For those who have defended this country and will defend this county, we pay a small but significant 'thank you,'" he said.

Stenholm said it is important that the U.S. continue to provide its service men and women "the best tools, the best information, the best of everything, so they

can perform their duties as well as those who have been called on in the past."

Dewhurst called the home a "labor of love" and added, "Our Texas veterans are finally going to get skilled, first-rate quality care in a home custom-made for them; the facilities are going to boost the economies in the communities where they are built; and Texas taxpayers are going to save more of their hard-earned money."

The long-term, skilled nursing care facility is one of four built for Texas veterans. Others are the Frank M. Tejada State Veterans Home in Floresville, the Clyde W. Cosper Texas State Veterans Home in Bonham and the William R. Courtney State Veterans Home in Temple.

To be eligible for admission to any of the homes, an individual must be recognized as a veteran by the United States Department of

Veterans Affairs and:

- require long-term nursing care as determined by a physician and concurred by the USDVA;
- be at least 18 years of age;
- be a Texas resident at the time of application for admission;
- had been a Texas resident at the time of entry into military service or has resided in Texas continu-

See VETERANS, Page 3

### West Texas Centers: New mission focuses on quality of life

By VALERIE AVERY  
Herald Correspondent

The last year has ushered in many changes for West Texas Centers for MHMR, one of which was developing a new mission and vision for the Center. "Quality Services for Quality Life" is the Center's mission as it continues to serve people with mental illness and mental retardation in the 23-county area in West Texas.

"Our number one priority is our consumers," said West Texas Centers for MHMR CEO Shelley Smith. "They are the reason we are here, and our focus is to continually help them improve their quality of life, achieve new goals and strive to move forward."

West Texas Centers for MHMR was established in 1995 as part of the state's plan to privatize and consolidate the community services divisions of all state hospitals and schools. West Texas Centers — based in Big Spring — took over operations from the state in March 1997.

The Center claims Howard County as its office headquarters operating a local mental health center, vocational training program and psychosocial rehabilitation site as well. In addition,

*'Our goal is to give each of our consumers the chance to work and develop their own sense of accomplishment.'*

Shelley Smith,  
CEO for West Texas  
Centers

14 additional local mental health centers operate throughout the 23-county service area. Various services, such as medication management, child and adolescent counseling, psychosocial rehabilitation and crisis resolution are provided daily.

Services for people with mental retardation are coordinated through four regional offices, offering residential, habilitative and vocational training services.

Through the vocational services in both programs, "Our goal is to give each of our consumers the chance to work and develop their own sense of accomplishment," Smith said. "By working at a job, they are able to earn an outside income and learn skills

CEO Shelley Smith and Managed Care Director Cindy Neff stand in front of West Texas Centers for MHMR's Clyde J. Alsip Building. Alsip's influence on the development of the center was instrumental in the way employees care for consumers today, officials said.

Courtesy photo



which they can use the rest of their lives."

West Texas Centers for MHMR works on the front line of care for people with mental retardation and mental illness, Smith said. Teams of highly-trained specialists determine the best mode of treatment for each person, whether it is outpatient counseling, medication therapy or rehabilitative training.

With newer medications to treat mental illness, many people who would

have been treated in a state hospital now are able to live independently in the environment of their choice, Smith said.

"It is important to always provide needed services in the least restrictive environment," she said.

Local advocacy groups, such as Associations for Retarded Citizens, Alliance for the Mentally Ill, and Community Management Team for children/adolescents are partners with the center.

These groups, along with individual family members,

consumers and advocates See MHMR, Page 3

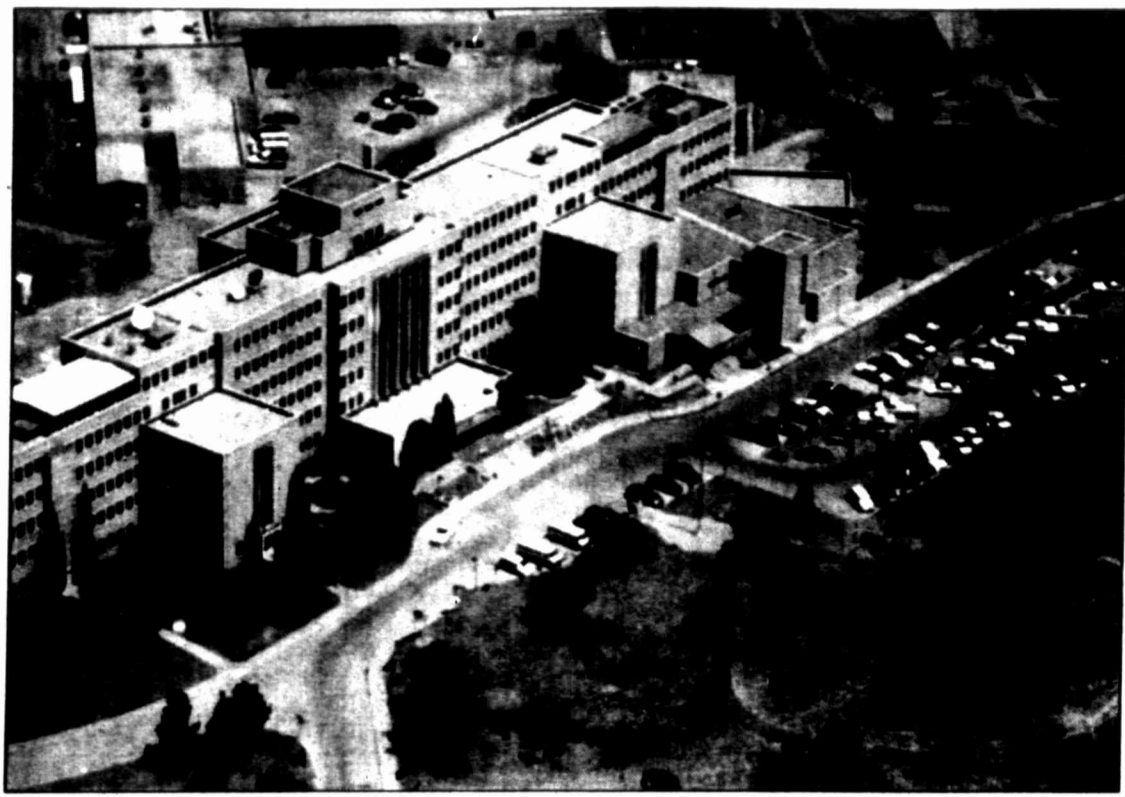
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# After more than 50 years, VAMC is still growing



The West Texas VA Health Care System, shown in an aerial view, is more than 50 years old. Recent and continuing construction projects are aimed at a transition from a focus on inpatient to outpatient care, and keeping the facility up to date.

HERALD Staff Report

The West Texas VA Health Care System opened its doors to serve America's veterans more than 50 years ago, beginning a commitment to those who have served our nation's armed forces that is continuing into a new century.



BROWN

"We continue to experience growth and expansion, and appreciate the opportunity to provide quality healthcare to our veteran population," said Cary D. Brown, the VA Medical Center's chief executive officer.

West Texas VA Health Care System, like most medical institutions, is transitioning from a focus on inpatient health care to outpatient care.

"Our outpatient workload has experienced significant growth during the past five years," said Brown. "This facility will exceed 90,000 outpatient visits during our current fiscal year. The inpatient census continues to decline and currently averages 53 patients per day. Our 40-bed Nursing Home Care Unit consistently operates at full capacity."

"In order to facilitate the growth and expansion of our workload, we gratefully are experiencing a lot of renovations at the medical center," Brown added.

During the past year, two floors received much-needed facelifts — the fourth floor, which houses the psychiatry service, and the sixth floor, which is the nursing home care unit.

New materials and brighter colors give the floors a cleaner, more modern look. The hospital's front entrance also received a new appearance and provided a safer environment for veterans by installing new tile steps and entrance way.

The ambulatory care (or outpatient) program continues to expand to meet the increasing healthcare needs of veterans. In order to accommodate the increasing workload and additional clinical staff, administrative services are being relocated to outlying buildings.

Information Resource Management Service (IRMS) relocated several months ago and other administrative services will be moved in the near future, Brown noted.

The IRMS move vacated enough space to expand the primary care program by two primary care teams. The new teams will work toward the medical center's goal of reducing waiting times and next available appointments. The new primary care space is scheduled to be ready for occupancy in April.

The Urgent Care (emergency room) section will temporarily occupy some of

*The ambulatory care (outpatient) program continues to expand to meet the increasing healthcare needs of veterans. In order to accommodate the increasing workload and additional clinical staff, administrative services are being relocated to outlying buildings.*

the new primary care space while it undergoes modernization. The small space currently in use for Urgent

Care will be expanded into a five-bed, open-bay area with a convenient nurse's station and an isolation room.

Upon completion of the Urgent Care renovations, primary care will be able to fully occupy its new space.

Plans are already being made for the new phase of expansion in the outpatient clinic. With the additional primary care staff, workload generated will require additional specialty providers.

In order to expand even further, more administrative functions will be relocated to the center's out-buildings. The Human Resources Management Service (HRMS) (or personnel) and Medical Care Cost Recovery (insurance-billing) will be relocated to Building 6.

Community Relations,

Social Work Service, and Chaplain Service will occupy the space being vacated by HRMS, and the space these services are vacating will be renovated for six additional examination rooms.

Renovations in Building 6 are nearing completion, so those moves are scheduled to take place in April.

Other projects currently under construction include the \$1.6 million ICU renovation/relocation project. Ward 3 East has been gutted to make way for a new six-bed ICU and 12-bed medical/surgical/intermediate ward that will provide overflow capacity for Ward 3 West. Completion is scheduled for September of this year.

In addition to the various construction projects, the West Texas VA Health Care System also invested approximately \$1.5 million to replace some of its medical equipment in 2000. Among the larger items include a new high-speed spiral CT scanner, a new gamma camera in the nuclear medicine department and new ultrasound equipment in the pulmonary section.

With the rising cost of medical care, the West Texas VA Health Care System's annual budget continues to increase.

The current fiscal year's

budget is slightly more than \$46 million, which represents an increase of approximately \$3.5 million over the previous fiscal year. These figures do not represent any construction costs.

"I am pleased with the

influence the West Texas VA Health Care System shares with the Big Spring community and, eternally grateful for the community support that is always available," said Brown.

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Back Row: Dee Clawson, Dr. Shroff, Front Row: Wendie Wallace, Fragna Shroff, Gracie Enriquez.

## State

By VALERIE A. Herald Correspondent

Despite changes in the ever-evolving care industry, State Hospital during the past year remained steady and caring, with mental illness.

Big Spring State Hospital is a 202-bed psychiatric hospital, owned and operated by the State of Texas under the direction of Department Health Mental

The hospital employees care with mental illness in the county area including population such as: Midland, El Paso, Lubbock, Abilene, Lufkin, Amarillo, and other health authorities. The feeder system is still deciding what could be better intensive psychiatric in a hospital.

"Our hospital is of-the-line for more intensive Spring State Hospital and Superintendent Moughon said those who are ill."

## Who

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# State hospital's mission has endured 63 years

By VALERIE AVERY  
Herald Correspondent

Despite changes forced by the ever-evolving health care industry, Big Spring State Hospital's mission during the past 63 years has remained the same — quality and caring service to people with mental illness.

Big Spring State Hospital is a 202-bed psychiatric hospital, owned and operated by the State of Texas under the direction of the Texas Department of Mental Health Retardation.

The hospital's staff of 674 employees cares for people with mental illness in a 78-county area in West Texas, including populated areas, such as: Midland, Odessa, El Paso, San Angelo, Abilene, Lubbock and Amarillo. Local mental health authorities work as a feeder system for the hospital, deciding which patients could be better served for intensive psychiatric care in a hospital.

"Our hospital is the end-of-the-line for people who need intensive care," Big Spring State Hospital CEO and Superintendent Ed Moughon said. "We treat those who are very, very ill."

In the past year, Big Spring State Hospital has experienced an influx of adolescent patients and has dedicated more staff and space to this population. The hospital is capable of caring for 24 boys and girls, ranging in age from 10 to 18 years of age.

The growing trend reflects the nation's sensitivity and acceptance of mental illness among adolescents, Moughon said.

"People recognize that children can be mentally ill," he said. "I think with the increased violence in the schools lately, people are more apt to take notice of what were once thought of as harmless threats by teenagers."

"We are more aware that if behavioral problems in our children aren't identified and treated, we all will suffer."

As the patient population shifts, Big Spring State Hospital must update its current facilities. The Texas Legislature appropriated \$4 million during the 1998 and 1999 biennium to the Texas Department of Mental Health Retardation, which forwarded it to Big Spring State Hospital for construction projects.

Funding enabled the construction of 38 additional restrooms for patients, which gave them more privacy.

"We think it's important to give our patients as much freedom as possible," Moughon said. "Privacy is a



File photo  
Volunteers from the Big Spring State Hospital conduct a number of fundraising projects each year to raise money for special patient programs. Above, they deliver a singing telegram on Valentine's Day.

big issue and we were elated that the state saw fit to give us money for what we thought was a necessity for our patients."

Other projects included fire alarm upgrades, roof repairs and elevator installation.

Big Spring State Hospital's beginnings are rooted in 1937 when West Texans recognized a need for psychiatric care in the area. The work began in January 1938.

Within 18 months of ground being broken, the hospital began receiving patients.

During that first year, 402 patients were cared for at the hospital by approxi-

mately 100 employees. The first staff members included a storekeeper, dairyman and swinesman. The hospital operated dairy, hog and cotton farms and a training program for work mules.

Within 10 years, the original eight buildings were added to, pushing the complex size to 13. Eventually, 1,100 patients were cared for at the hospital, but during World War II, the patient census began to drop to 211 allowing the temporary closure of some buildings.

The current census is for 202 patients: a 78-bed acute care program; 33-bed rehabilitative program; 32-bed seniors program; 20-bed medical program; 24-bed

youth program; and a 15-bed multiple disabilities program.

A huge addition to the state hospital in the early 1990s was the construction of the Activities Therapy Department building. Classes on "Managing Mental Illness," "Living Sober," and music are conducted, along with recreational activities.

Patients can earn money working in industrial therapy sorting items, assembling books or helping with the recycling program. Paper products are recycled at the hospital.

Employees also conduct a monthly surplus sale and auction of state hospital property and items put on consignment by the general public.

"We have some very

## VETERANS

Continued from Page 1

ously for at least one year immediately prior to application;

• was not dishonorably discharged.

Additional eligibility for admission is extended to the spouse or unmarried surviving spouse of a veteran and Gold Star parents, whose children died while serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

## MHMR

Continued from Page 1

are sought out for input on planning, strategic planning and outsourcing, assuring that quality of care is the driving force in decision making.

West Texas Centers for MHMR serves an area of 23 counties in West Texas.

See BSSH, Page 4



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# Investing in the community

## Scenic Mountain Medical Center offering new services, more physicians

**HERALD Staff Report**

During the past 12 months, Scenic Mountain Medical Center has invested in several projects to provide quality healthcare to the community.

The hospital has renovated and installed a new Imaging and Cardiovascular Center. This state-of-the-art center offers equipment capable of performing numerous procedures including arteriograms, angiograms, peripheral vascular studies, cardio-catheterization procedures, as well as, temporary and permanent pacemaker insertions.

SMMC has also teamed up with Family Medical Center to provide more full-time physicians for Big Spring and surrounding communities.

Among those recently hired is Dr. Dale Bradley, a family practice physician. Dr. Bradley is a board certified family practice physician practicing at Family Medical Center.

Dr. Bradley believes family is the center of everything. That's his personal belief and why he chose to practice family medicine. As a primary care physician, he has a from-the-ground-up opportunity to encourage healthy lifestyles and to develop long-term relationships with his patients. Dr. Bradley has a sub-specialty interest in dermatology and provides in-office dermatological services.

Two additional physicians will be joining the hospital within the next few months.

Dr. Ruth Bernal, a pediatric physician, will be relocating to Big Spring in April. She will also be practicing at Family Medical Center.

Dr. Erich Byerly, an obstetrics/gynecology physician, will be relocating to Big Spring in August and practicing at Family Medical Center.

Family Medical Center announced the arrival of its DXA bone densitometry system in August of last year.

Most bone loss occurs during the first 10 years following the onset of menopause, when women lose bone density every year unless treated. That's why the detection and treatment of bone loss during these years are critical. But sadly, fewer than 10 percent of women with osteoporosis have been diagnosed and are currently under treatment.

The new instrument, the Hologic Delphi X-ray Bone Densitometer, allows the simultaneous assessment of existing vertebral fractures and bone mineral density in a single, point of care tool. Its assessment of existing vertebral fractures is comparable in sensitivity and specificity to that of a traditional lateral X-ray.

The analyzed report of the test results can better help physicians identify patients at risk for osteoporosis and more accurately determine their fracture risk, so that professionals can begin therapeutic intervention to prevent further bone loss.

Hospital officials encourage women in Big Spring to discuss their risks and need



**BERNAL** **BRADLEY**

for a bone density scan with their physicians.

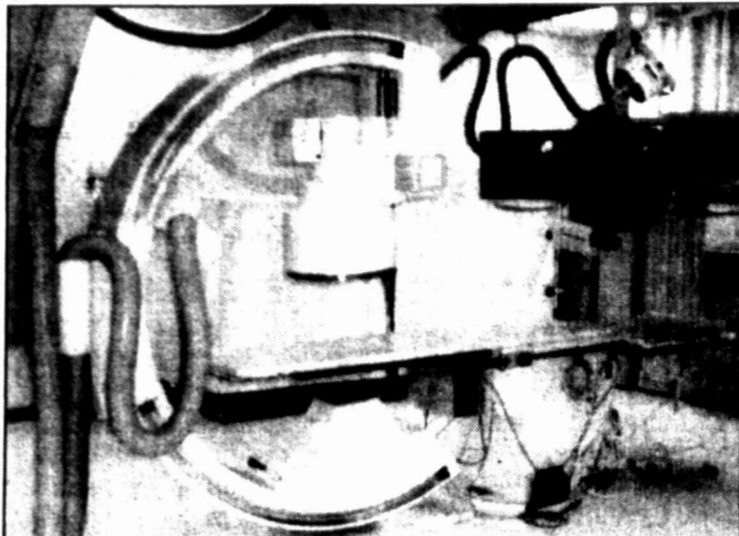
Hospital administrators also noted that the WorkSTEPS program is continually growing.

SMMC and ALON USA completed a WorkSTEPS contract agreement last year and have been testing several new-hire positions at ALON.

WorkSTEPS is one of the nation's largest providers of standardized medical/functional employment testing, and SMMC is a licensed WorkSTEPS provider.

The WorkSTEPS program was developed by physical therapists in a clinical setting in response to industry's need for reliable, medically/legally defensible employment testing programs designated to reduce workplace injury and injury costs.

The program confirms to EEOC guidelines for the Americans With Disabilities Act. SMMC provides WorkSTEPS employment testing to several other businesses in Big



Courtesy photo

**SMMC has renovated and installed a new Imaging and Cardiovascular Center which offers equipment capable of performing such procedures as arteriograms, angiograms, peripheral vascular studies, cardio-catheterization procedures, as well as temporary and permanent pacemaker insertions.**

Spring. They include Southwest Convenience Stores, Dr. Pepper Bottling D., Co-Ex Pipe, Howard College and the Big Spring Independent School District.

In February, the hospital transferred its Transitional Care Unit into SMMC's Swing Bed Program. The program provides an extensive range of medical and rehabilitative services including 24-hour nursing care, an activities program, IV therapy, occupational therapy, patient education and discharge planning. All patient care is coordinated

through a team approach. The future holds additional changes, as renovation of the emergency room is to begin this summer.

## BSSH

Continued from Page 3

industrious employees who have come up with numerous ways to generate more money for our patients," Moughon said.

In November 1999, the Volunteer Services Council proudly unveiled the Animal Assisted Therapy building where animals are used in therapy with patients who may be unresponsive to traditional treatment.

Big Spring State Hospital also holds a contract with the VA for psychiatric services, including intermediate and long-term care for veterans with psychiatric illness.

Big Spring State Hospital donated land for construction of the new veteran's nursing home.

Volunteer programs continue to grow at Big Spring State Hospital. Last year, 240 volunteers worked 27,316 hours. Total contributions to the hospital in gifts or in-kind man-hours worked on a host of projects totaled \$95,737.

## Covenant

**physicians**  
**HERALD Staff R**

For medical services, pediatrics to surgery to orthopedics, residents can visit Malone and Howard located adjacent to Mountain Medical Center.

The clinic has openings in 1938, local doctors and John E. partners established facility as an hospital to help the cope with a shortage of facilities.

In 1974, the center into the more modern building it occupies today in 60,000 square space.

Even at its peak, the clinic's goal was access to specialized variety of medical people would make long drive services.

That goal is still today as the center the community specializing in fields available leaving town.

The 15 physicians multi-specialty members of the Medical Group, of the Covenant System based in Covenant Medical a regional multi-group of more physicians across Texas and Mexico.

The physician accredited through the Joint Commission Accreditation of Organizations (JCAHO) Covenant Medical Hogan's physicians their specialties: • Anesthesia • McKenzie

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## Covenant Malone and Hogan has physicians and services from A to Z

HERALD Staff Report

For medical services from pediatrics to surgery, radiology to orthopedics, local residents can visit Covenant Malone and Hogan Clinic, located adjacent to Scenic Mountain Medical Center.

The clinic had its beginnings in 1938, founded by local doctors P.W. Malone and John E. Hogan. The partners established the facility as an eight-bed hospital to help the community cope with a shortage of medical facilities.

In 1974, the clinic moved into the more modern building it occupies today, taking in 60,000 square feet of space.

Even at its founding, the clinic's goal was to provide access to specialists in a variety of medical fields so people would not have to make long drives for those services.

That goal is still being met today as the clinic serves the community with doctors specializing in a variety of fields available without leaving town.

The 15 physicians of the multi-specialty clinic are members of the Covenant Medical Group, an affiliate of the Covenant Health System based in Lubbock. Covenant Medical Group is a regional multi-specialty group of more than 250 physicians across West Texas and eastern New Mexico.

The physician group is accredited through the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).

Covenant Malone and Hogan's physicians and their specialties are:

- Anesthesia — Dr. Bonnie McKenzie



File photo

**Covenant Malone and Hogan Clinic's history dates back to 1938, when it was founded by Drs. P.W. Malone and John E. Hogan. Today, it is a modern facility whose 15 doctors are affiliated with a regional medical group.**

- General surgery — Dr. James E. Mathews, Dr. Robert McFaul
- Family practice — Dr. Robbie Cooksey, Dr. Michael Auringer, Dr. Micheal Stephens
- Internal medicine — Dr. Manuel Carrasco, Dr. James W. Huston
- Gynecology — Dr. John Forks
- Orthopedics — Dr. Robert Hayes, Dr. Richard Orbon
- Pediatrics — Dr. Steve Ahmed, Dr. Jose Chavez
- Urology — Dr. Rudy Haddad
- Radiology — Dr. Stacy McFaul

Within the regional medical group, the physicians of Covenant also have access to a strong referral network.

In addition to its physician offices and services, the clinic includes Covenant Surgery Center, a full-service outpatient surgical facility located at the entrance to the building.

Since it opened in 1986, the surgery center has continued to grow in services and patient volume.

The surgery center, accredited by JCAHO, has the goal of offering procedures in an efficient, accessible and affordable setting that provides an alternative to the traditional hospital stay.

Covenant Laboratory, located on the third floor of the clinic, is a full-service, JCAHO accredited laboratory. Covenant Imaging Center, located in the lobby, provides imaging and radiology services that include mammography, fluoroscopy and ultrasound.

## What about Hall-Bennett?

Once area's only hospital, facility's future uncertain

By CARL GRAHAM

Staff Writer

In 1928, the only hospital existing in Big Spring was the red brick structure operated by the Sisters of Mercy. It was located in the former home of John Birdwell and was where the present Big Spring Care Center now stands, 901 Goliad.

Two young physicians, Dr. G.T. Hall and Dr. M.H. Bennett, formed a partnership and built a red brick, two-story, 20-bed hospital at 409 E. Ninth.

Dr. Hall is said to have selected the site because of its commanding view of the city and because of the winds which swept the hill, making it the coolest spot in town. It was named Big Spring Hospital.

For several years, it would be the only hospital between Big Spring and El Paso.

Other doctors would later become affiliated with the clinic. Among them were Dr. Hardin Wood, Dr. Preston Sanders, Dr. T.J. Williamson, Dr. Broadway Broderwick and Dr. Garland Lang.

In the late 1940s, Hall cur-



File photo

**In this photo taken in the early 1990s, patient and staff vehicles fill the parking lot in front of Hall-Bennett, which now stands vacant. Built by two local physicians in 1928, the facility was first a 20-bed hospital and later housed offices for several doctors of different specialties.**

tailed his practice in semi-retirement and Bennett and Dr. Clyde Thomas purchased the hospital.

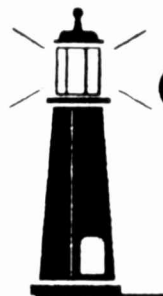
In 1964, two wings were added to the original building — one serving as a nurses' residence. Later, an additional room was needed for clinic offices and the residence was converted into offices and patient rooms.

Dr. Louise Worthy, the daughter of Dr. Bennett, soon joined the firm as a pediatrician.

In 1966, the hospital

changed its name to Hall-Bennett Memorial because the name Big Spring Hospital often was confused with the Big Spring State Hospital. Administrators also wanted to honor the founders, Drs. Hall and Bennett. The building now stands vacant and in need of repair; its last occupants have moved on.

Memories, however, linger for longtime Big Spring residents who can recall "the good old days" when the clinic represented medicine in West Texas.



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# Community pitches in to support variety of health, medical causes

By **LYNDEL MOODY**  
Staff Writer

Community efforts to generate funds and awareness for health issues continue to bring out volunteers and provide just plain fun for those involved.

One of the biggest fundraisers of the year, involving thousands of people in Big Spring, is the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

"This is a seventh year for the Relay for Life," said Susan Lewis, co-chair of underwriting. "About 12,000 people are involved with the event before it is over with."

Last year, almost 750 walkers, working in teams, cruised the Blankenship Field track to raise money for ACS during the 24-hour period. Concession booths and entertainment are provided as people camp out on the field and on the first

night, thousands flock to the field for the lighting of hundreds of luminaria.

The survivor lap kicks off the event and other participants follow after the first lap. Those who are unable to walk but want to help can join the rocking chair group.

A seven-person event board guided the first Relay to raising close to \$23,000. Last year the 40-member board oversaw raised approximately \$121,000.

"This town is so generous," Lewis said. "This committee is like no other I have seen before. There are no stars. Everyone works very hard."

**Alzheimer's Association**  
Serving approximately 300 to 400 residents in the county, the Alzheimer's Association Greater West Texas Chapter gives support for families and residents

that have been impacted by Alzheimer's and dementia.

The group provides monthly support groups for family members and quarterly workshops. During the month of October, the organization holds a Memory Walk at Comanche Trail Park where teams walk to raise money. This will be the third year for the walk.

**Blood Drives**  
A call from United Blood Services to area residents asking for blood donation usually brings out the volunteers. In order to supply the 12 area hospitals, UBS for this service area must collect more than 300 units of blood each week.

From businesses, to educational institutions to community-wide drives, the UBS blood mobile and its staff make monthly trips to the area.

**Heart Walk/Jump Rope for Heart**

Attempting to help reduce disability and death from cardiovascular disease and stroke is the mission of the American Heart Association. Annually the AHA holds the Heart Walk and Jump Rope for Heart events both to raise funds and educate the community.

Last year's Heart Walk brought 71 people, despite near-freezing temperatures to raise funds and awareness for cardiovascular research and education. The participants walked for about 30 minutes while Howard College cheerleaders supported their efforts.

In Jump Rope for Heart,

area elementary students from local schools jump rope for pledges, aimed at raising funds for the AHA.

**MS Walk**

Multiple sclerosis is a disease that randomly attacks the nervous system and every year residents put on their walking shoes to help educate and find a cure.

In years past, walkers have trekked from First Baptist Church into Comanche Trail Park and back to the starting point, an approximately hour-and-a-half walk. Participants seek sponsors to pledge a certain amount of money for every mile they walk. This year's MS Walk is April 7.

**Muscular Dystrophy**

Last year over \$30,000 was raised locally for the Muscular Dystrophy Association during two local events; organizers said over 75 percent of that money stayed in the community.

Big Spring firefighters hit the streets asking residents to Fill the Boot, their annual campaign. Last year the firefighters presented a check to the MDA for \$5,000.

The Harley Owners Group (HOG) sponsored the local televised MDA telethon at the Big Spring Mall with a telephone center and members of the group answering the phone to take pledges.

## Fair is a healthy tradition

By **SHAYNA WADDELL**  
Herald Correspondent

With the medical community having played a vital role in the lives of Howard County residents for many years, it's not surprising that a health fair is staged every year.

For the last 15 years in Big Spring, each fair has focused on a new message to the public.

"Be Heart Smart" is the theme for this year's Howard County Health Fair scheduled for Saturday, April 21, at the Dorothy Garrett Coliseum.

The American Heart Association will be sponsoring the fair along with several Howard County businesses.

"Jump Rope For Heart," a program that allows children to get sponsors for jump-roping contests, will

be one of the fair's attractions. The Howard County 4-H team will be handing out healthy recipes and giving demonstrations on diet and exercise. Local fitness centers will also be putting on exercise demonstrations.

The Big Spring Police Department will also be represented, offering free fingerprinting and videotaping of kids. These fingerprints and video tapes will be kept on file at the police station.

The fingerprint/video program is designed to aid police when children are lost or missing. Parents need to bring a blank videotape to have their children filmed. Police will also be offering a 911 emergency training course for children.

Free health screenings are one of the main services offered each year at the Health Fair and the 2001 event will be no exception.

Patrons will be allowed to ask health care professionals questions about a number of health topics.

Howard County Health Fair officials hope to again offer the blood test for prostate cancer, called a PSA, this year.

The event offers a great deal of fun and education for the whole family. Approximately 50 booths will be offering demonstrations, so there's sure to be something for everyone — including a lot of free goodies.

On Saturday, April 21, in the morning, the Master the Mountain Fun Run, as well as 5K and 10K events will be staged at Big Spring State Park. A walk around the mountain called "Walk Across Texas" is also scheduled. The walk and the runs start at 8 a.m. and both will benefit the American Heart Association.

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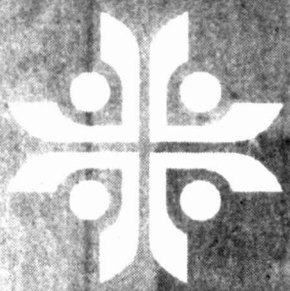
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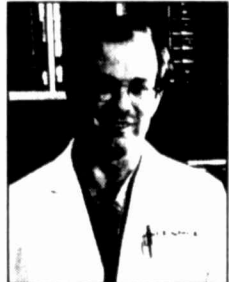
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